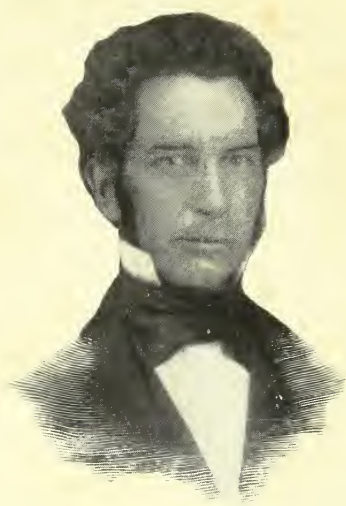




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REV. ANSON McLOUD.

THE
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
OF THE
TOPSFIELD
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. III.

: o :
1897.

TOPSFIELD, MASS. :
Published by the Society,
1897.

Newspaper Items Relating to Topsfield.

COPIED BY GEO. FRIS. DOW.

Valuable data relating to towns and individuals oftentimes finds its only record in the columns of the newspaper. The following items cover everything directly concerning Topsfield found in the files of the Salem newspapers from the first issue in 1768 to the year 1800.

To be SOLD,

A piece of land in Topsfield containing about 7 acres bounded southeasterly on land laid out to Francis Cabot, southwesterly on land of Thomas Symonds and William Rogers, northwesterly on the highway and northeasterly by a wall. For further particulars enquire of Peter Frye, Esq., in Salem, or John Brown Merchant in Boston.

Essex Gazette, Aug. 14, 1770.

Salem, May 28, 1771. Mr. Samuel Town, in crossing Topsfield River in a Canoe, last Saturday Se'nnight, fell over and was drowned. His Body was found the Monday following. He was between 60 & 70 Years of Age.

Essex Gazette, May 28, 1771.

Boston, Oct. 3, 1771. We learn from Topsfield that the copper-mine, some time since opened there, at 12 or 15 feet depth, affords such sam-

ples of fine, lively ore, extended in spatterings all over the pit, that experienced miners have declared the appearances preferable to any yet discovered in America.

[Mass. Spy].

Essex Gazette, Oct. 8, 1771.

Abigail, my wife, obstinately refusing to continue with me in Obedience to marriage Covenant, in that she refuses to bed and board with me; Therefore these are to forbid all Persons from harbouring and entertaining the said Abigail as they would avoid the Penalty of the Law: but if the said Abigail will return to her Husband, and behave agreeably in her marriage station, then I stand ready to forgive all former pardonable offences, as though they had never been: Furthermore, I the said Joseph forbid all Persons contracting any Debts with the said Abigail, for I will not pay one Farthing of any Debt contracted by her from the Date hereof.

Joseph Bradstreet,

Topsfield, 1772, July 30th.

Essex Gazette, Aug. 4, 1772.

DIED. At Topsfield, on Monday the 22d Instant, and was decently interred the Thursday following, Mrs. Sarah Fessenden Consort of William Fessenden, A. M. To reflect on the

amiable Deportment, the virtuous and blameless Life and Christian Conduct of the Deceased, must administer that Consolation to her sorrowful Relict, and all who were nearly concerned in her Life and Death, which can arise from no other source.

The memory of the Just is blessed.

Essex Gazette, Mar. 30, 1773.

A Woman at Topsfield, privately procured a Line, which she concealed till an opportunity offered for executing her Design; and on the 25th ult., she was found hanging by her Neck, dead, in her Chamber.

Essex Gazette, June 26, 1773.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD.

At a legal Town Meeting in Topsfield, May 18th, 1773.—Agreeable to an Article in the Warrant, the Town took under Consideration a Letter, a Pamphlet, and other Papers accompanying the same, sent to this Town by the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Boston, containing a List of the Rights of the Colonists, and of this Province in particular; also a List of the Infringements and Violations of these Rights, for the Consideration of this Town. It being near the close of the Day, a Motion was made to chuse a Committee, to take under their Consideration the Letter, &c. and that the Meeting be adjourned, and the committee to make a draft in answer to said Letter (if they shall judge proper) and to lay the same before the Town at the adjournment of the said meeting.

The Town chose a Committee of

nine Persons for the Purpose aforesaid, and adjourned said meeting to the Eighth Day of June—June 8th, 1773, the Town being met together on the Adjournment, the Letter, Pamphlet, and other Papers being read and duly considered, the Committee then reported the following Draft in answer, &c.

That it is the opinion of this Town that the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, have truly and justly stated the Rights of the Colonists, and this Province in particular, as first their national Rights as men, secondly their Rights as Christians by the Laws of God, and thirdly their Rights as Subjects by the Constitution, all which Rights in the opinion of this town, the Colonists in general, and the Inhabitants of this Province in particular are and forever ought to be truly and justly intitled to, unless by their own Act, they forfeit them. It is also the opinion of this Town that the Infringements and Violations made on those Rights are truly and rightly stated, and that if such Violations and Infringements are still continued in, it will prove the Ruin of this Province, if not the whole Continent of America, and we fear the whole kingdom of Great Britian too; and we look upon it the Duty of this and every Town in this Province, in a legal way, to use our and their utmost endeavors to prevent the execution of any and all unconstitutional Act or Acts that has been or that may hereafter be made to deprive us of any of our just Rights and Liberties, or to take away our Property from us, without our Consent, and that this Town in particular will be ready at all Times,

to join with their Brethren, in every legal way and manner, to defend the life and Person of his Majesty, and the Lives of our Brethren, his Majesty's loyal subjects, and in the same way to preserve and defend our own lawful Rights, Liberties, and Properties even to the last Extremity.

And that the Thanks of this Town be given to the Town of Boston, for their taking such early Care in stating the Rights of the Colonists, and making a Representation of the Infringements and Violations that are made of our just Rights and Liberties.

The Town voted to accept the above Report by a great majority, and then chose Capt. Samuel Smith, Capt. John Boardman, and Deacon John Gould a Committee for Correspondence with the Committee of Correspondence of Boston.

Also voted, That the Town clerk transmit an authenticated copy of the foregoing Votes to the Committee of Correspondence of Boston.

A true copy.

Attest, Elijah Porter,
Town clerk.

Essex Gazette, Sept. 21, 1773.

ROBERT DAVIS Now rides as Carrier from Salem to Haverhill. He sets off from S. and E. Hall's Printing office at nine o'Clock every Tuesday Morning, and will carry Letters, Packets, and mail Bundles, at a reasonable Rate. Any person may be supplied by him with the *Essex Gazette* at the usual Price of 6s. 8d. per Annum, and 1s. for postage.

Essex Gazette, July 19, 1774.

Topsfield, July 15, 1774.

Monday the 11th Instant died, and Yesterday was decently interred, the Reverend Mr. John Emerson, Pastor of the Church in this Town. He was a Native of the Town of Newbury, was educated at Harvard College, the first Honours of which he received in the year 1726. Soon after he went into the study of Divinity, and was settled in the pastoral office in this Place sometime in the Month of November, 1728; and continued a faithful Labourer in the Gospell Ministry upward of 45 Years.

His religious Sentiments were the same. for Substance, with those of the good old puritanic Christians who first planted the Gospel in New-England: And he ever lamented and bore his Testimony against, as a real Apostacy from the Spirit and Religion of our pious Ancestors, the Growth of Principles of a very different Cast and Tendency, which of late Years, have obtained such Footing in many Parts of the Land. His Deportment was pleasant yet serious such as shewed that the Religion he professed habitually influenced both his Heart and Life.

His Preaching was plain, close and searching: as the Points he principally pursued and mainly dwelt on, were such as related to experimental and practical Religion.

His sorrowful surviving Consort has in him, lost a tender husband; his Children, an affectionate Parent; and the People of his Charge a good Minister.

His last Illness was of the lingering kind, as consisting in a universal ill Habit of Body: which notwithstanding he sustained with great

Patience and Submission to the divine Will: meeting his approaching Dissolution with the Calmness; Fortitude, and Resignation of a Christian.

Essex Gazette, July 26, 1774.

At a meeting of Delegates from every town in the county of Essex, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, held at Ipswich, in said County, on the 6th and 7th days of September, 1774, viz

(were present)

For TOPSFIELD, Capt. Samuel Smith, Mr John Gould, Mr Enos Knight.

Various Resolves were passed, see newspaper account.

Essex Gazette, Sept. 13, 1774.

At a meeting of the Alarm List and Training-Band of the first Foot Company in Topsfield, on the 6th of December, 1774, (agreeable to the Advice of the Provincial Congress) to choose officers for said Company. Voted, Mr Stephen Perkins, Captain: Mr Solomon Dodge, Lieutenant: Mr David Perkins, Ensign: and all other officers by a very large Majority, and upon a Declaration of their several choice there appeared great Satisfaction.

Essex Gazette Dec. 20, 1774.

At a Meeting of the Alarm List and Training Band of the Foot Company in Topsfield, on the 5th of December, 1774, to chuse Officers for the said Company (agreeable to the Advice of the Provincial Congress) Voted, Mr Stephen Perkins, Chairman: Voted, Mr Joseph Gould, Captain.

The Day being Spent a Motion was made for said Meeting to be adjourned to the next Morning, 9 o'clock: the Question was put, and passed in the affirmative & accordingly said meeting was adjourned to said Time. December 6, Said Alarm List and Training Band met according to adjournment, a Motion was made said Company to be divided into two distinct Companies: the Question was put and accordingly they were divided into two Companies: the first Company voted Mr Joseph Gould, Captain: Mr Samuel Cummings, Lietenant: Mr Thomas Moore, Ensign: and all the other Officers by a great Majority. The second Company voted Mr Stephen Perkins, Captain: Mr Solomon Dodge Lieutenant: Mr David Perkins, Ensign: & all the other Officers by a great Majority.

Essex Gazette, Dec. 27, 1774.

ELIJAH PORTER was clerk to the Proprietors of Raymond, a township in Cumberland County, also of Hale's Town in New Hampshire. See advertisement of 20s. levy in

Essex Gazette, Jan. 24, 1775.

Last Saturday Evening died at Topsfield, Mr Benjamin Kimball late student at Harvard College Son of Mr Jacob Kimball of that Town. His Illness was a Fever and Dysentery in which he was exercised with great Pain, which he sustained with great Patience and remarkable submission to the Devine Will. His Hopes of eternal life were firm and strong to the very last which enabled him to entertain the Views of his

Dissolution with a Calmness and Serenity of Mind which was truly surprising, as well as satisfying and comforting to all who conversed with him in his sickness.

Essex Gazette, Sept. 7, 1775.

TO BE SOLD.

A small farm in Topsfield, consisting of excellent land, with a new house on it, and a barn in good order. It will keep eight or ten cows through the year. For particulars, inquire of Nathaniel Richardson, near the Rev. Mr. Diman's meeting house in Salem, said Richardson has to sell, a few hogsheds of stone lime.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 1782.

EXCISE TAX

Whereas, Jonathan Webster, Esqr: Collector of Excise for Essex County, has given notice, in the public print, to all licensed persons on spirituous liquors and teas, and owners of carriages, to meet at a certain time and place, to pay the duties thereon; in the several towns hereafter mentioned, viz:—Salem, Lynn, Danvers, Middleton, Topsfield and Boxford: and I the subscriber have attended at the time and place therein mentioned: and as there are many persons who have not settled their excise, this is to notify all such, that they call immediately at my house, or at Capt. Webb's, inn holder at Salem, where constant attendance will be given, as they would wish to avoid further trouble and expense.

Samuel Epes.

Deputy Collector.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 2, 1783.

EXCISE TAX.

The Collector of Excise for the county of Essex gives notice, that he shall attend, by himself or deputies, in the several towns in said county to collect the duty on carriages, as follows, viz.—On the 17th at Mr Daniel Clarke's in Topsfield, from 3 to 6 P. M. All concerned are requested to attend that the collection may be completed.

Samuel Ward,

Coll. Excise Essex County.

Salem, 10th June 1783.

Salem Gazette, June 12, 1783.

ALL CONCERNED

are desired to take notice, That the Collector of Excise for Essex County will attend by himself or deputies in the several towns hereafternamed, to receive the excise due the 15th May next, as follows.—On the 18th at Mr John Baker's in Topsfield, from 2 to 5 P. M.

All licensed and permitted persons in said county are desired to attend at the several places aforementioned, and settle their respective accounts.

Any who are delinquent in paying the tax on carriages are requested to settle the same and prevent further trouble and expense.

Samuel Ward,

Coll. Excise Essex County.

Salem, April 19, 1784.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1784.

A gentleman at Topsfield has sent us the following account—

On Thursday the 3d inst. Mr Thomas Emerson, of Topsfield, invited a great number of his neighbors to assist him in raising a frame

for a barn, 80 feet long and 30 feet wide; which they proceeded in, until they had got up the body of the frame. They had got the beams on the scaffolds, and had put on one plate, and were getting on the other, which was the whole length of the frame, and the timber very heavy; when about forty feet in the middle of the frame, consisting of five posts, in the front, as many beams, and a scaffold of the same length, and the whole plate, with all the braces, girts and joists belonging thereto, almost instantly fell to the ground.

It was judged by the spectators, that there were about 30 men on that part of the frame, when it fell; a large number of whom were wounded, five or six badly, and one mortally, viz. Mr. Jeremiah Pearley, an inhabitant of the town: his wound was a fracture in the skull, which was supposed he received by falling on a stone that lay under the frame; he died in about twelve hours after he was wounded.

He was about 35 years of age, and has left a young and disconsolate widow to mourn his untimely fate.

Salem Gazette, June 8, 1784.

NATHAN PEABODY, HAVERHILL POST RIDER.

Informs the Publick, that he sets out from Boston for Haverhill on Thursdays, and from Haverhill to Salem on Mondays, and returns on Tuesdays. Those gentlemen who may please to entrust him with the conveyance of letters, etc., may depend upon their being delivered with punctuality and on very moderate terms.

Salem Gazette, May 31, 1785.

Two letters for Abr. Hobbs of Topsfield were at the Salem Post Office, Sept. 29, 1785.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 4, 1785.

DIED. At Topsfield, on the 1st instant after a short illness, Mrs. Mary Gould, Wife of Daniel Gould, A. M. of that place. She has left a kind and tender Husband, with an infant Babe, together with a large circle of friends and acquaintances to lament her death. It may with truth be said, that her life was spent in one continual series of good economy, virtue, piety and benevolence.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 11, 1785.

William Cleaveland, collector of excise for the West District of Essex County, advertised to be at the house of Mr John Baker in Topsfield, from 3 to 5 P. M. on the 18th of Nov. 1785.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 18, 1785.

On Wednesday the 19th ult. the Rev. John Cleaveland jun. was ordained Pastor of the church in Stoneham. Rev. Daniel Breck of Topsfield, gave the Right Hand of Fellowship.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 1, 1785.

DIED. At Topsfield, on Monday the 14th instant, Samuel Smith, Esq. aged 72.—So amiable and worthy a character as he evidently appeared, both in public and private, will render the memory of him ever precious. For a number of years he represented the town in the General Court, where he was esteemed a man of integrity

and uprightness. His usefulness among those with whom he was more immediately conversant, was eminent. He was a sincere friend to the liberties of his country, and a strenuous advocate for the doctrine of Christianity.

"The memory of the just is blessed."

Salem Gazette, Nov. 22, 1785.

The creditors of the estate of Mr Jacob Andrews late of Boxford, yeoman, were notified to prove their claims before the commissioners, Stephen Symonds and Benjamin Perley, on the last Tuesday of Nov. 1786, at the house of Samuel Hood, innholder, in Topsfield.

Salem Mercury, Nov. 16, 1786.

The subscribers appointed commissioners by the Hon. Benj. Greenleaf, Esq. Judge of Probate, etc. for the county of Essex, to receive and examine the claims of the several creditors to the estate of Mrs. SARAH GOULD, late of Topsfield, in said county, deceased, represented insolvent, and 6 months being allowed for that purpose—give notice, that they will attend said business, on the third Wednesday of this and the five following months, from 4 till 7 o'clock P. M. at Captain John Baker's, innholder in Topsfield aforesaid.

Stephen Symonds.

Daniel Bixby.

Topsfield, Oct. 13, 1787.

Salem Mercury, Oct. 16 1787.



CINCINNATI!

The Members of the Society of

Cincinnati, residing in the county of Essex, are requested to meet at Mr. Baker's tavern in Topsfield, on Wednesday the 21st instant at 2 o'clock P. M.

As business of some consequence, relative to the Society, will come before them, a general and punctual attendance is desired.

Frederick Frye.

Nov. 5th, 1797.

Salem Mercury, Nov. 6, 1787.

Mr. Israel Clark is chosen delegate to the Convention for Topsfield. (The State Convention to consider the new Federal Constitution.)

Salem Mercury, Dec. 25, 1787.

The collector of Excise advertised to be at the house of Capt. John Baker in Topsfield, May 2. 1788, from 3 to 4 o'clock P. M. to receive excise.

Salem Mercury, Apr. 8, 1788.

At the election held April 7, 1788, Topsfield voted as follows:—

Gov—Hancock 53. Gerry 13.

Lt. Gov—Lincoln 53. Warren 13.

Salem Mercury, April 15, 1788.

General orders issued by Maj. Gen. Jonathan Titcomb of the 2d Division from Newburyport, dated 26 Apr. 1788 shows that Ipswich, Topsfield and Wenham constituted the 2d regiment in the 2d brigade in the above said division.

Salem Mercury, May 6, 1788.

In an "extract of a letter from a gentleman at the new settlement of Muskingum (Ohio) to a person in

this town (Salem) dated July 20th 1788" is the following.

The Rev. Mr. Breck is here, and this day preached the first sermon that was ever delivered on the banks of the Muskingum, from Exodus xix. 5, 6. *Now, therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me, above all people; for all the earth is mine; and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation.*

Salem Mercury, Sept. 9, 1788.

The Collector of Excise gave notice that he would be at Topsfield, at Samuel Hood's from 1 to 2 o'clock P. M. on Nov. 1st 1788, to collect excise.

Salem Mercury, Oct. 14, 1788.

On Wednesday last, Colonel Waide's regiment was reviewed at Ipswich by the Hon. Majorgeneral Titcomb. After the review, a well planned representation of the storming a fort was exhibited with much spirit and propriety. The fort was situated on a hill near the meeting-house, and defended by a party of infantry and Capt. Brown's horse. The assailants came up in two columns from different quarters; when the fort was summoned, the commander of which resolutely refused to surrender.

The battle then began; each body of the assailants was opposed by a party of horse, the former were repulsed, when three cheers resounded from the fort; they, however, returned to the attack, displayed from the hill, surrounded the fort, and carried

the works in an instant.

This performance gave great pleasure to many military characters who were spectators.

After this was finished, the line was formed, and the troops went through the firings with a regularity and precision which could not have been expected. The men were well dressed, well armed, and paid that strict attention to command which in a great measure made up for their want of experience, and gained them the approbation of their fellow citizens.

Salem Mercury, Oct. 28, 1788.

NEXT MONDAY

The 3d of November, at 1 o'clock, P. M. Will be Sold.

AT PUBLIC VENDUE.

A farm, consisting of about 90 acres, with a House and Barn thereon, situated in the Southwestern part of TOPSFIELD, and belonging to Mr. JOHN REA. Sale to be on the premises, conditions of which will be made known at the time and place thereon. For further particulars, inquire of said JOHN REA, living on the premises.

Topsfield, Oct. 27, 1788.

Salem Mercury, Oct. 28, 1788.

All persons indebted to or having demands on, the estate of JOSHUA TOWNE late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased, are requested immediately to settle with

Jacob Towne, Admr.

Topsfield, Nov. 1st, 1788.

Salem Mercury, Nov. 4, 1788.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Board-

man, relict of Capt. John Boardman, late of that place, deceased.

Salem Mercury, Feb. 17, 1789.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Anna Hood, aged 24, wife of Mr. John Hood, jun.

Salem Mercury, Sept. 22, 1789.

The Collector of Excise advertized to be at Saml Hood's Topsfield, from 1 to 2 o'clock, P. M. Nov. 2, 1789.

Salem Mercury, Oct. 13, 1789.

All persons indebted to, or having demands on, the estate of JOSEPH TOWNE, late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased, are requested to apply for a *speedy* settlement to

Martha Towne,

Adm^r.

Topsfield, Nov. 2, 1789.

Salem Mercury, Nov. 3, 1789.

On Thursday last, the Rev. Mr. Huntington was ordained to the pastoral care of the church of Christ in Topsfield.

The Rev. Mr. Knott of Norwich (Connecticut) opened the solemnity with prayer; Rev. Mr. Hart of Preston (Connecticut) preached a sermon, from Heb. xii. 1—*Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses*; Rev. Mr. Smith of Middleton made the ordaining prayer; Rev. Mr. Cleveland of Chebacco gave the charge; Rev. Mr. Dana of Ipswich made the concluding prayer; Rev. Mr. Holyoke of Boxford gave the right hand of fellowship.

Salem Mercury, Nov. 17, 1789.

Installed—at Hartland, Vermont, Rev. Mr. BRECK, late pastor of the church in Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 5, 1790.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Elizabeth Emerson, widow of the Rev. John Emerson, 81.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 6, 1790.

The Collector of Excise advertized to be at Hood's in Topsfield on May 5, 1790, from 3 to 4 P. M.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1790.

DIED. At Topsfield, suddenly, Mrs. Gould wife of Mr. Nathaniel Gould, aged 35.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1790.

The subscribers being appointed commissioners by the Hon. B. Greenleaf, Esq., Judge of Probate of Wills, etc., for the County of Essex, to receive and examine the claims of the several creditors of the estate of Mr. NATHANIEL BRAGG, late of Topsfield, in said County, house-wright, deceased—represented as insolvent; and 6 months from the 5th day of July instant being allowed the creditors to said estate to bring in and prove their claims, do hereby give notice that they will attend that business at the house of Capt. John Baker, innholder, in said Topsfield, on the last Monday of this and the five following months, from 4 to 6 o'clock in the afternoon of each day.

Daniel Bixby,

John Merriam,

Topsfield, July 7, 1790.

Salem Gazette, July 13, 1790.

The Collector of Excise advertized to be at Baker's in Topsfield on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 1790 from 2 to 4 o'clock, P. M.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 5, 1790.

DIED. At Topsfield. Miss Hitty Kimball, aged 32, eldest daughter of Mr. Jacob Kimball.

Salem Mercury, Nov. 23, 1790.

The County of Essex contains 57908 inhabitants, of these the town of Topsfield contains 780.

Salem Mercury, Jan. 4, 1791.

BY ORDER OF COURT.

To be sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday the 12th of May next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

So much of the Real Estate of Mr. Joshua Towne, late of Topsfield, deceased as will amount to about Seven Hundred Pounds—consisting of

TWO FARMS,

situated in Topsfield, with two Dwelling-Houses and four Barns thereon, about 120 acres of Upland, a large quantity of Meadows, lying in Wenham, Topsfield and Danvers. Also, a small Wood Lot in Boxford, and two small pieces of Salt Marsh in Ipswich.

Sale to be on said farms.

Jacob Towne, jun., Admx.

Topsfield, April 19, 1781.

Salem Mercury, May 3, 1791.

DIED. At Topsfield, on the 6th inst. Mrs. LUCY CLEAVELAND, wife of Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., and eldest daughter of John Manning,

Esq., of Ipswich, aged 29 years.

Thro' life, Mrs. Cleaveland supported an amiable character. As a daughter and a wife, the domestic Virtues and Graces were her attendants. Her numerous relations and acquaintances sincerely lament the death of one so useful to her friends and so ornamental to Society.

Salem Gazette, June 14, 1791.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. JACOB Averell, in the 89th year of his age. Besides a number of children, grandchildren, &c., who mourn the loss of Mr. Averell, he has left a wife, now in her 86th year, with whom he lived, in great conjugal affection, 63 years and 4 months.

Salem Gazette, July 5, 1791.

FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

Mr. Cushing.

Some of your country readers are well pleased when they meet in your paper, with a question fitted to exercise their skill in figures, as in that way, they may agreeably pass a leisure hour, especially in a winter's evening. It is but seldom I have an opportunity of peeping into a newspaper, and when it happens, it is commonly a stale one, of 2 or 3 weeks back—but I lately met with your fresh Gazette of August 30th—may be I shan't see another for a month to come. In that of August 30th I met with a question proposed in the following words: "suppose that ten seconds transpire from the first descent of a stone into a Well to the time of the echo, or the first hearing of the sound, what must be the measure of the depth of that

Well?" Which, at first sight, struck me as a curious and entertaining question—not attending to the implied intention of it to puzzle some particular person, I and two or three of my neighbors have done our possibles to answer it, but we can do nothing with it, not being able to 'sery out what relation the transpiring of ten seconds from the first descent of the stone into the well, to the time of the first hearing the sound, alone, has to the depth of the well; and we suspect that the propounder of the question has imposed upon your readers, by propounding a question which he knew, for want of having some one or more circumstances being made known, which he has concealed, could never be answered. Be this as it may, I wish you would please so far as to indulge me as to inform the propounder of the above question, that I have in my garden a well reckoned as deep as any in the neighborhood, the bottom of which, with the addition of my arm's length to my well pole I never could reach by (I believe) a good many feet—and when he, by knowing only the length of the well-pole, being 20 feet and 1 inch exactly, shall determine the depth of my well, I and two or three of my neighbors, all of us able bodied men, will have another tug at his question—and exert our utmost endeavors, from the circumstances of ten seconds transpiring as in the question set forth, to produce an answer to it, however fruitless the attempt may prove.

AGRICOLA.

Topsfield, Sept. 6, 1791.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 13, 1791.

FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

Mr. Cushing.

I have seen the question in your paper respecting a Grindstone—which proved very amusing and entertaining to several of us, and which as far as my skill in figures will allow, I have endeavored here to answer—which, if you have not a better, your giving it a place in your paper will oblige one who sometimes turns the Grindstone, & (as the common phrase is) sometimes holds on.

The whole diameter is 60 inches.

The first person wears it till the diameter is $51\frac{9}{10}$ inches—or about one hairs breadth less than 52 inches.

The second person wears it till the diameter is $42\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

The Third ditto till the diameter is 30 inches.

It then remains for the fourth person to wear it out, allowing nothing for the eye.

If the gentleman who proposed the above question will allow my answer to be nearly right, I will beg leave to ask, how much must each of the above named persons wear of the said Grindstone, that each may have an equal benefit of it?

Topsfield, 10th November.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 22, 1791.

From Topographical Sketches of the County of Essex as published in the Massachusetts Magazine it appears that Topsfield was incorporated in 1650, contains 107 houses, 150 families and has a population numbering 780. It is an inland town devoted to the cultivation of the soil.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 13, 1792.

BY ORDER OF COURT.

To be sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday the 12th day of April next at 1 o'clock P. M.

A FARM of about 60 acres, lying in the south-east of Topsfield, consisting of upland and meadow; together with a large Dwelling-House, two Barns, and other out buildings, thereon. Also about 3 acres of Salt Marsh, lying in Ipswich.—Sale to be at the above dwelling house.

Jacob Towne.

Topsfield, March 17, 1792.

Salem Gazette, March 20, 1792.

WILLIAM VANS,

Collector of the Carriage Taxes for the south district of Essex (Topsfield being one of the towns named) gave notice of rediness to receive such taxes at his house in Salem until the 20th of April.

Salem Gazette, March 27, 1792.

DIED. At Andover, Mrs. Anna Cummings widow of Capt. Thomas Cummings of Topsfield, aged 73; her descendants are 15 children, 65 grand-children, and 14 great-grand-children.

Salem Gazette, April 17, 1792.

Mr. Printer,

The following list of Senators has been very generally approved by the landed interest—these are all gentlemen who have leisure to attend—ability to understand—and firmness to pursue, the true concerns of their country. Mr. G.'s [William Gray, jun.] name has been handed round the SEAPORTS—it is sincerely to be lamented that the very extensive *Commerce* that gentleman is engaged in, will by no means suffer him to attend to the important affairs of the *County*—and as the *Commercial* interest is more immediately the regulation of Congress—the best intended efforts, to that point, will be in a measure thrown away.

Topsfield, March 26, 1792.

For Governor—His Excellency John Hancock, or Hon. Francis Dana.

For Senator—Hon. Azor Orne, Samuel Holton, Samuel Phillips, Stephen Choate, Richard Ward, Esq., Theophilus Bradbury, Esq.

Salem Gazette, March 27, 1792.

BY ORDER OF COURT.

To be sold at Public Vendue on Thursday the 24th of May next, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

Part of the Real Estate of Mr. ISRAEL Clark, late of Topsfield, deceased, consisting of Pasturage and fresh meadow, lying in Topsfield, and Salt Marsh lying in Ipswich. Sale to be at the Dwelling House of said deceased, in Topsfield aforesaid.

ISRAEL CLARK, Admr.

Topsfield, April 23, 1792.

Salem Gazette, April 24, 1792.

On Wednesday last, Mr. Francis Perley, jun., and Mr. Daniel Chapman jun. went out in a small canoe upon a pond in the vicinity [Prichard's Pond now known as Hood's Pond] with the intention of taking fish; when Mr. Perley, in throwing out the anchor, unfortunately overset the boat, which threw them both into the water; Mr. Chapman, who could not swim, fortunately fastened upon

the canoe, as it lay with the bottom upward, which sinking with his weight, bro't the water almost over his body; in that situation he called for help, while Mr. Perley, trusting to his skill in swimming, told his companion that he would make for the shore, which was upwards of 20 rods distant; but his strength failing, he sunk, and was drowned in the sight of his friend. The neighbors, at the fatal moment, were unhappily at a distance; but the cries of Mr. Chapman for assistance, were at length heard by Major Asa Perley, who immediately flew to his relief, stripped off his clothes and swam toward the canoe, tho he was in the 76th year of his age; but when he arrived he was unable to move the canoe, as it was fastened by the anchor; he therefore returned to the shore, when, with the help of a few, who were by this time collected, by means of a raft, Mr. Chapman was relieved from his distressful situation.

The body of Mr. Perley was then taken up, after it had lain in the water about two hours.

Every exertion was made to restore life to it, but all proved ineffectual.

Mr. Perley was in his 28th year, and was a person of strict integrity; he had the happiness of the universal esteem of his acquaintance, whose united testimony of his worth will sufficiently embalm his memory.
Boxford, May 26, 1792.

Salem Gazette, June 5, 1792.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. REBECCA GOULD, wife of Mr. Zacheus Gould, aged 69. She has for many years been in poor health, and thro

all her indisposition has appeared to exercise Christian patience, and to have "*Joy and peace in believing*" in the rectitude of divine Government. She remained in her usual state of health till a few hours before her death, when being violently ceased with pain, it suddenly terminated in her dissolution. Her husband mourns under the loss of an agreeable and tender companion, and society is deprived of a useful member. "*I was a stranger and ye took me in; an hungered and ye gave me meat; naked and ye clothed me!*" might with truth have been said to her by the number of twelve persons, whom she has taken in infancy and childhood, from among orphans and dependants, and brought up to mature age. Her expressions of kindness toward them were apparently no less than those which are excited by parental affection and tenderness; many of them still survive to mourn her loss, and who were, and still are, ready to "*arise up and call her blessed.*"

Salem Gazette, June 5, 1792.

Notice is hereby given, that administration on the estate of Mrs. ANNA CUMMINGS, late of Topsfield, in the county of Essex, widow deceased, intestate, has been duly granted to the subscriber, who has given bonds according to law; and all persons indebted to, or having demands on said estate, are requested to apply for settlement to

NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND, Admr.
Topsfield, September 17, 1792.

Salem Gazette. Sept. 18, 1792.

DIED. At Topsfield, Miss Priscilla

Kimball, daughter of Mr. Jacob Kimball, aged 28.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 23, 1792.

DIED at Topsfield, on the 2d instant, Mr. Zacheus Gould, in the 76 year of his age. In justice to his memory, it may with truth be said, that, through the whole of his life, he was an example of seriousness, piety and devotion; he was possessed of a penetrating mind, and of a good judgement; punctual to his engagements, and in his dealings with mankind.

He represented the town in the General Court, in the most critical and trying period. He has been long employed in the town in its most important offices; the duties whereof he discharged with integrity, wisdom and ability.

He was friendly and obliging to all—the kind and tender husband,—sincere and agreeable to his friends—candid and forgiving to the inimical—a father to the fatherless—and a generous benefactor to the indigent and distressed—exemplary in his public walks and private conversation—a sincere lover of religion and of its upright professors—constant in his attendance on public and divine worship, and in all the ordinances of the gospel. He could with pleasure take a retrospective view of his life, and have the testimony of his conscience, that he had lived according to the precepts of the gospel; knowing that he had strictly adhered to them through life. This composed and calmed his mind under the apprehension of his approaching dissolution, and in the solemn and

important hour of death; and therefore could cheerfully and willingly resign his soul into the hands of a merciful Saviour and Redeemer, relying alone on his merits for justification before God the father. His exemplary virtues endeared him to a large and extensive circle of friends and acquaintance; the solemn gloom which hangs on their countenances fully evinces the regard they had for him, and the value of the man; and which manifests, that they are sensible of the loss they have sustained by his death. His virtues must embalm his memory more than *sons* and *daughters*—and the many who have been under his care, and have experienced his beneficence, must rise up and pronounce him blessed.

“Why should we mourn departing friends,

Or shake at death's alarms?

*'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends,
To call us to his arms.”*

Topsfield, Jan. 8th 1793.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 15, 1793.

By order of the Court of Common Pleas.

To be Sold at PUBLIC VENDUE; on THURSDAY the 23d day of May next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

ABOUT 10 Acres of LAND, situate in Ipswich, being part of the Real Estate of Mr. ISRAEL CLARKE, late of Topsfield, deceased.

The sale to be at the dwelling house of the subscriber, in Topsfield aforesaid.

Israel Clarke, Admr.

Topsfield, April 19, 1793.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 23, 1793.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Ephraim Town, aged 68.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 17, 1793.

A most sorrowful accident took place on Thursday last;—Mr. ASA BRADSTREET, a young man belonging to Topsfield, was driving a team home from this town, with some boards in his wagon, and in Danvers, was observed by a person to be riding upon the boards, who spoke to him, and told him he thought his situation rather unsafe, this startled Mr. BRADSTREET, who is supposed to have been in a drowse, and he threw himself off, but fell so that both wheels passed over his head, and killed him instantly!

Salem Gazette, Oct. 29, 1793.

KIMBALL's Singing-Books are lodged at W. CARLETON's Book-Store, Salem, for Subscribers; where non-Subscribers may also purchase them.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 4, 1794.

All persons indebted to the estate of ASA BRADSTREET, late of Topsfield, shoemaker, deceased, are desired to exhibit their accounts—and all indebted, to make speedy payment.

ABIGAIL BRADSTREET, Admx.

Topsfield, Jan. 27, 1794.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 4, 1794.

New Musick Book.

By J. KIMBALL.

Just published, price 4-6 single, and 4-, by the dozen, and for sale by THOMAS & ANDREWS, the Publishers,

in Boston; and by WM. CARLETON, in Salem.

THE RURAL HARMONY, being an original musical composition, in three and four parts.—To which is prefixed, *An Introduction in the Art of Singing*. For the use of Singing Schools and Musical Societies.

By JACOB KIMBALL, jun. A. B.

Subscribers, to whom it may be convenient, may receive their Books of W. CARLETON, in Salem.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 11, 1794.

By order of Court, to be Sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday the 10th of April next, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. So much of the Real Estate of JOSHUA TOWNE, late of Topsfield, deceased, as will raise the sum of about one hundred pounds.

Sale to be on the premises. For further particulars inquire of

JACOB TOWNE, jun. Admr.

Topsfield, March 17, 1794.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 25, 1794.

TO BE SOLD

A valuable FARM, situated in Topsfield, about half a mile from the Meeting-House, lying partly on the road leading to Haverhill, and partly on the Ipswich road, consisting of about 150 acres, well wooded and watered, with a good Dwelling-House, Barn, &c. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber.

JOHN BAKER.

Topsfield, March 22, 1794.

N. B. Terms of payment may be made easy.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 8, 1794.

Letters in the Post-Office, Salem.
April 8, 1794.

TOPSFIELD—Jacob Kimball.
Salem Gazette, Apr. 15, 1794.

DIED. At Topsfield, Captain
Joseph Cummings, 101.
Salem Gazette, May 6, 1794.

*By Order of Court, to be sold at
Public Vendue on Thursday the 5th
of June next, at 2 o'clock in the
afternoon.*

So much of the Real Estate of
JOSHUA TOWNE, late of Topsfield,
deceased, as will raise the sum of
about forty pounds; consisting of
Meadow and Upland, and lying in
said Topsfield.—Sale to be on the
premises.

JACOB TOWNE, jun., Adm'r.
Topsfield, May 12, 1794.
Salem Gazette, May 13, 1794.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. John
Cree, 64.
Salem Gazette, June 10, 1794.

Letters in the Post-Office,
Salem.—June 23,
Topsfield. Joseph Kilham (2),
Jacob Kimball.
Salem Gazette, June 24, 1794.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Sarah
Dorman, widow of Mr. Nathaniel
Dorman, 51.
Salem Gazette, July 1, 1794.

To be Sold at Public Vendue, by
order of Court, on Thursday the 31st
day of July instant, at 1 o'clock, in

the afternoon.

A Piece of Swamp and Meadow;
lying in Topsfield and Wenham, to
the amount of eighteen pounds, for
the payment of the debts of JOSHUA
TOWNE, late of Topsfield, deceased
—being part of the estate of said
deceased:—Sale to be on the
premises.

JACOB TOWNE, Admr.
Topsfield, July 14, 1794.
Salem Gazette, July 22, 1794.

“To be Sold at Public Vendue”
with other lots of real estate “about
4 acres of Meadow, at Bunker’s, so
called, in the Town of Topsfield.”

HANNAH FRIEND, Admx.
Wenham, March 16, 1795.
Salem Gazette, March 17, 1795.

MARRIED. At Topsfield, Mr.
Daniel Porter of Danvers, to Miss
Ruthey Mecom of that place.
Salem Gazette, March 24, 1795.

Caution to the Public.

On Saturday last, A—— F——R
of Topsfield, was detected in selling
Veal with part of the Entrails con-
cealed under the Kidney, in order to
increase the weight of it. It is said
this is not the first time the rogue
has been guilty.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 7, 1795.

“To be sold at Public Vendue”
with other lots of real estate “about
6 acres of mowing land in Topsfield,
at Bunker’s (so called).”

HANNAH FRIEND, Admx.
Wenham, April 10, 1795.
Salem Gazette, Apr. 21, 1795.

DIED. At Topsfield, Miss Lydia Kimball, daughter of Mr. Jacob Kimball, aged 25.

Salem Gazette, May 5, 1795.

EXCISE ON CARRIAGES.

The Collector of Excise on Wheel Carriages for the Western District of the County of Essex (which included Topsfield) gave notice of his readiness to "receive the Entries and Duties" on the same according to act of Congress.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 4, 1795.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. CORNELIUS BALCH, aged 46.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 1, 1795.

DIED. At Topsfield, very suddenly, Mr. Abraham Foster, in the 77th year of his age.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 3, 1795.

FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

Fellow-Citizens,

The 1st Monday in April is fast approaching, when we are called upon by our happy Constitution to exercise one of the most important rights of Freemen, viz., the election of a First Magistrate. Here we will pause a moment for a few reflections, and consider what are the prerequisites for the Electors truly to exercise this right; and I believe it will be granted by every person of common sense, that knowledge in the Elector of the Person to be elected, is an essential prerequisite; but as the territory of this Commonwealth is so extensive, personal knowledge

in all the Electors of any one Man, cannot be expected. In the next place, what are the principal qualifications in the person to be elected? That they are, information, probity and integrity, I believe will be as readily granted—from thence it will follow, the person best known to most of the Electors, and possessing the aforesaid qualifications, is the only person in favour of whom the suffrages for a First Magistrate ought to be given—When these principles are sacredly adhered to, then it is, the Citizens shew themselves worthy the character of Freemen, and act conformably to the principle and spirit of our free Constitution, and when this is the real state of Republics, happy are the people—but when the Electors are led by cabals and factions, the citizens condition is truly deplorable.

Now personally to apply the premises Conformably to the foregoing propositions, no nomination for a First Magistrate, appears so eligible, as the *Honourable* JUDGE SUMNER—who for near twenty years has filled one of the most conspicuous and important offices in the Commonwealth, with the entire approbation and satisfaction of the citizens at large—When on the Bench, coolness and candour marked his temper, while Law and Justice governed his judgment. Add to these the knowledge he must have of the Commonwealth, by means of his Circuit travels; and of the qualifications of persons necessary for filling Offices, are such irresistible reasons, as will induce the free Electors of Essex, and the Commonwealth at large, to give him their fullest support; and

in so doing they will shew Republican virtue, by supporting a real friend to rational liberty and the indelible rights of mankind.

A true friend to Constituted Authority.

Topsfield, March 24, 1796.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 29, 1796.

Among the letters remaining at the Post office, Salem April 1, 1796 was one for Doctor John Merriam (Topsfield).

Salem Gazette, April 5, 1796.

DIED. At Topsfield, very suddenly, Capt. Samuel Cummings, aged 64.

Salem Gazette, April 12, 1796.

DIED. At Topsfield, Miss Betsey Gould aged 22, daughter of Mr. John Gould.

Salem Gazette, May 3, 1796.

A person who had lately a just occasion to pass on Topsfield Road on the Lord's Day, after service, could not refrain from observation upon the careful observance of it by all classes of people. In the space of eight miles after five in the afternoon, he did not see one person abroad, or a single person of either sex gazing through the windows. While a free country can preserve such sacred regard to primitive manners, they may expect the continuance of the public happiness, and the best virtues which can belong to national character.

An enlightened people, under the influence of social and long established institutions of religion, asso-

ciated with hours of meditation, sober conversation, and devotion, may hope for the best blessings of heaven.

All these families are warm friends to good government.

Salem Gazette, May 24, 1796.

DIED.—At Topsfield, Miss Hannah Moore, aged 22, daughter of Mr. Thomas Moore.

Salem Gazette, May 24, 1796.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Stephen Perkins. *Æt* 51.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 8, 1796.

DIED. At Topsfield, much lamented, Mr. David Kimball, aged 24, son of Mr. Jacob Kimball, who has been bereft of many children within a few years.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 2, 1796.

In the list of letters at the Salem Post office Jan. 1, 1797, was one for Adam Ross of Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 17, 1797.

In the list of letters at the Salem Post office April 1, 1797, was one for Doctor Jno. Merriam of Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, Apr. 7, 1797.

In the list of letters at the Salem Post office July 1, 1797, were letters for Amos Gould and Sylvanus Wildes, Esq., both of Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, July 4, 1797.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Priscilla Smith, widow of Samuel Smith, Esq.,

deceased, 83—a truly conscientious, pious and exemplary woman.

Salem Gazette, July 7, 1797.

DIED. At Topsfield, Sept. 8, very suddenly, Mrs. MARY AVERELL, consort of Mr. Elijah Averell, and daughter to Maj. Joseph Gould aged 36. An afflicted husband, a young family, aged parents, and a numerous train of near connexions, demand our sympathy, and call us to mourn with them the unexpected removal of a valuable friend, cut off in the meridian of youth.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 15, 1797.

In list of Letters at the Salem Post Office, Sept. 30, 1797, were letters for

Charles Davis,	Topsfield.
Rev. Asahel Huntington,	do
Dr. John Merriam,	do
Jonas Merriam,	do
David Towne,	do

Salem Gazette, Oct. 13, 1797.

STRAY COW.

STRAYED from the Neck Pasture in Marblehead, Oct. 16th, a small red Cow, about 9 years old, has small crooked horns, her head rather darker than her body. Whoever has taken up or may find said Cow, and will return her or give notice thereof to Mr. MOSES GOULD, at Topsfield, or to the subscriber, shall be suitably rewarded, and all necessary charges paid by

JOSEPH ROUNDEY.

Marblehead, Nov. 6.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 10, 1797.

All persons indebted to, or having any demands against, the estate of

JOHN LAMSON.

late of New Boston, in the county of Hillsborough, and state of New Hampshire, tanner, deceased, are requested to apply for settlement to the subscriber, attorney to *Ephraim Jones*, executor to the last will and testament of said deceased.

NATHANIEL HAMMOND.

Topsfield, Dec. 11, 1797.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 12, 1797.

MARRIED. Jonathan Porter, of Danvers, to Sally Boardman of Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 26, 1797.

In Salem Post Office list for Dec. 31, 1797, were advertised letters for Rev. Daniel Breck (2), Topsfield.

Josiah Lamson,	do
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Salem Gazette, Jan. 5, 1798.

FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

MR. CUSHING,

THE DOG ACT gives general uneasiness in this part of the county, not only as being founded on principles extremely unconstitutional, but also as carrying on the very face of it a degree of partiality to one part of the community, equally injurious and offensive to the other.

Had this act restricted itself to a responsibility on the part of the owner of a dog committing damage, it would have been consonant to the sound principles of jurisprudence.

But, sir, how happens it that the District of Maine is exempted from this oppressive tax on *private prop-*

erty? If dogs are serviceable to the District of Maine, are they not equally so to farmers in other parts of the Commonwealth? Are there no other parts of the Commonwealth thinly inhabited, and abounding in game, but the District of Maine? Pray, sir, inform me if the act would not *go down* without exempting the District of Maine from its operation.

To obviate the effects of this hasty act, it is proposed here to vote a bounty of one dollar to every one who may be liable and shall actually pay a tax of one dollar for one dog. And as the act *very wisely* vests the money arising from this tax in the disposition of the towns—a town may doubtless appropriate it as it pleases; those, therefore, who pay a tax of one dollar, will be reimbursed, and the act restricted to its proper limits—a responsibility for damages.

Yours, Z.

Topsfield, March 19, 1798.

P. S. The act ostensibly is to prevent the ill consequences from canine infection. Pray, sir, are not the dogs in the District of Maine liable to this infection? In short, those who keep dogs as an article of luxury can or will pay this tax for them. The farmer, and others to whom dogs are really useful, cannot possibly afford to pay a tax so entirely disproportionate to any tax ever known to this country. It might perhaps have been usefully provided for in the act that young dogs should be wormed. It is said to be the case in England.

Salem Gazette, March 20, 1798.

MARRIED. At Topsfield, Mr.

NATH'L POTTER of Ipswich to Miss PHEBE SYMONDS.

Salem Gazette, April 16, 1798.

Letters at the Salem Post Office March 31, 1798.

Israel Clarke,	Topsfield
Asahel Huntington,	do
Jos. Towne,	do
Eben'r Towne,	do

Salem Gazette, April 6, 1798.

TO BE SOLD.

A FARM in Topsfield, consisting of about 36 acres, mowing and tillage, with a good orchard; a good house and barn thereon. Also a Wood Lot in Boxford, of about 8 acres; and 6 or 7 acres of Swamp in Wenham.

For terms apply to

THOMAS MOORE, *on the premises.*

Topsfield, July 6, 1798.

Salem Gazette, July 6, 1798.

Letters at the Salem Post office June 30, 1798.

Rev. Asahel Huntington,	Topsfield
Polly Killam,	do
Doctor John Merriam,	do

Salem Gazette, July 10, 1798.

By Order of Court.

At the Dwelling House of Mrs. Olive Brown, in Boxford, on Wednesday the 29th day of August, next ensuing, at 1 o'clock, P. M., will be sold,

So much of the Real Estate of SAMUEL BROWN, late of Boxford, in the county of Essex, yeoman, deceased, as will amount to the sum of one thousand and seventeen dol-

lars. Said Estate is situated in Boxford and Topsfield and consists of the Homestead, containing about 70 acres, about 10 acres of Meadow near William Munnies, about 9 acres of Pasture near Jesse Perley's, and a Wood Lot in Cedar Swamp containing about 8 acres. Conditions of sale to be made known at the time and place aforesaid.

THOMAS PERLEY, Adm'r.

Boxford, July 13, 1898.

Salem Gazette, July 10, 1798

DIED. At Topsfield, on Wednesday last, Mr. JOHN BALCH, aged 56. At quarter past eleven o'clock in the forenoon, he was suddenly seized by a most violent spasmodic disorder, and after enduring much pain, expired at three in the afternoon, having been attended by an able physician. He was, when seized, in full health and strength, of which he possessed an uncommon share, being in stature 6 feet 4 inches. He was noted for his probity, integrity of heart, and exact punctuality in all his engagements; and he was attended to the grave by the largest concourse of friends and acquaintance ever before witnessed here. He has left a worthy and afflicted family to lament the loss of a most kind and tender husband, parent, brother and friend. A long and painful disease is generally, and seems naturally to have been, placed between life and death, to the end, perhaps, that death itself might be viewed as a friend by those who die, and by those left behind; but under such sudden and awful dispensations of Divine Providence, how much

must the suddenness of the shock add poignancy to the affliction! But the more awful the dispensations of God are, the stronger sense shall we be impressed with of our dependence on him; and the more able shall we be to turn this sense to our moral and spiritual advantage.

Salem Gazette, July 13, 1798.

Last Sunday afternoon, after service, the Rev. Mr. HUNTINGTON, of Topsfield, after a handsome introductory address to his people, read the letter of General WASHINGTON, which has excited so much pleasure throughout the country, by declaring his acceptance of the command of the armies of the U. States.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 3, 1798.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Moses Averell, aged 29; who, in the various relations of life, exhibited an amiable succession of the social and christian virtues.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 7, 1798.

By order of Court.

Will be sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday, the 27th day of September next, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Real Estate of STEPHEN PERKINS, late of Topsfield, deceased; consisting of a Dwelling House and Barn, and about two acres of Land, situated near the meeting-house. Sale to be on the premises.

ROBERT PERKINS, jun. Admr.

Topsfield, August 28, 1798.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1798.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. John

Lefavour, aged 80.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1798.

Letters remaining at Salem
Post office Oct. 4, 1798.

Isaac Averill, Topsfield.

Rebecca Ingalls, “

Salem Gazette, Oct. 9, 1798.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Priscilla Averill, widow, 93, the oldest person in that town.

Salem Gazette, May 28, 1799.

RECRUITING SERVICE.

Capt. John Pynchon, 15th U. S. Infantry, gave notice to all who were inclined to enter the Infantry of the United States of the opening of a rendezvous at the house of Mr. J. Kimball, Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, June 18, 1799.

50 DOLLARS REWARD.

Whereas some person or persons on the night of the 11th inst. nt, influenced by a malicious stinking spirit, perpetrated a most shameful deed, no less than conveying a large quantity of human excrement into a valuable well of water, near my Dwelling House. Any person or persons who will make discovery of the f—ng villain or villians who committed or was concerned in the above filthy transaction, so that he or they may be convicted thereof, shall receive the above reward.

Henry Bradstreet.

Topsfield, Oct. 29.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 29, 1799.

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

Lost, on Monday evening last at or within a mile of Putnam's Tavern in Danvers, on the Haverhill road, a black leathern Pocket Book, containing a number of Bank Bills, amounting to upwards of 30 dollars and several private Notes of Hand. Whoever has found the same, and will deliver it with the contents to the subscriber, shall be entitled to the above reward.

John Balch.

N. B. All persons are cautioned against purchasing the said notes of hand.

Topsfield, Nov. 15.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 19, 1799.

MARRIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Enos Lake to Miss Anna Gould: Mr. Philemon Foster, of Linebrook, to Miss Nabby Hobbs.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 14, 1800.

Advertised letters at the Salem Post office, Mar. 31, 1800.

Eleazer Lake Topsfield.

Hannah Masury “

Ebenezer Town “

Salem Gazette, April 11, 1800.

DIED. At Topsfield, on Monday last, after a long, distressing sickness, which she endured with patience and resignation, Mrs. ELIZABETH TOWNE, wife of Mr. JACOB TOWNE, aged 68.

Salem Impartial Register,

May 19, 1800.

DIED. At sea, Mr. Daniel Perkins, second mate of the Franklin,

from Batavia—he was a native of Topsfield, and well known in his faithful attendance at the bar of the Sun Tavern for several years.

Salem Gazette, May 23, 1800.

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. *Ruth Cree*, widow, aged 70.

Salem Gazette, July 18, 1800.

DIED. At Topsfield, after a long illness, Mrs. *Sarah Towne*, widow of the late Mr. Ephraim Towne, aged 78.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 22, 1800.

DIED. At Topsfield, Sept. 20th, after a short illness, *Isaac Averell*, jun. A. M., aged 33—Candidate for the Gospel Ministry. He had received a call for settlement from the church and society in Brookfield, south parish, and had given them an affirmative answer. The 1st day of October next was assigned for his ordination. His numerous acquaintance will long remember him as a man of friendship, sobriety and virtue; and by his death the people whose choice united in him as their servant in the Lord, are subjected to a very afflictive disappointment. "*O fallacom hominum spem fragil-emque fortunam.*"

Salem Gazette, Sept. 23, 1800.

We are desired to mention, as a Candidate for the Fourth Middle District,

Mr. SYLVANUS WILLES, of Topsfield. This gentleman has had the advantage of a liberal education, has read law with the late Mr.

PYNCHON, and been regularly introduced to the practice thereof, but is at present occupied in agriculture, has for several years been a Representative in the General Court, is a man of good moral and political principals, and possesses that intelligence, firmness and integrity, which are essential in the character of a National Legislator. It is presumed that he will unite the federal suffrages of the District.

[We hope the Federalists of the Fourth Middle District will agree on *one* Candidate before they enter warmly into the electioneering contest.]

Salem Gazette, Oct. 21, 1800.

DIED. At Topsfield, Oct. 12, Miss *Catherine Willes*, aged 84—Whose amiable and benevolent deportment through life secured her the esteem and affection of her acquaintance, and entitled her to the honorable appellation of "*a mother in Israel*," though she had neither husband nor children.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 24, 1800.

Lost on Sunday evening last, between Topsfield Bridge and the Sun Tavern in Salem, a round Sable Tippet. Whoever has taken it up, and will return it to the printer, shall be handsomely rewarded.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 31, 1800.

DIED. At Sturbridge, Mr. *Eli Towne*, formerly of Topsfield, aged 69.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 21, 1800.

A Historical Sketch of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Topsfield.

BY MRS. CLARISSA GLAZIER.

In that part of Topsfield now known as "The City" was the beginning of Methodism in this town. "The City" was then known as "Hobbs' City" from the fact that there were so many families by the name of Hobbs living there.

In May 1830, Charles Dodge and Ezra Glazier, both of Ipswich, at the earnest invitation of Sister Olive Clarke kindly consented to come to Topsfield and hold meetings in the North School-house.

Charles Dodge was a brother of Manning Dodge of Ipswich, and Ezra Glazier was a native of New Hampshire, a baker by trade. He came to Ipswich and set up his business there.

Mrs. Israel Clarke, more familiarly known as "Aunt Olive," was a native of Topsfield, living on the road to Ipswich at what is now known as "Willowdale." Her maiden name was Redington. She was very eccentric in her ways, tall and graceful in appearance; she usually wore a black silk calash, calico dress and a black silk handkerchief across her shoulders. She became interested in Methodism while visiting her sister in Lynn, and as there was no Methodist church in Topsfield she frequently rode to Ipswich with her neighbor, Mr. Amos Gould. Here she became acquainted with Mr. Dodge and Mr. Glazier, two earnest church workers.

By her invitation they came to

Topsfield and held a meeting in the North School-house in May, 1830. The building was then located in the field lying in the corner of the Ipswich road and the Bonny's Feather-bed road, so-called being perhaps a hundred feet from the corner.

We quote the words of Mr. Glazier: "On, approaching the school-house we saw a few standing outside the house and remarked one to the other that we supposed those were all the people we would have to talk to on that day. However we were very much mistaken, for when we reached the door we saw that the room was well filled. After introducing ourselves we opened the service by singing, this was followed by prayer, then a portion of the scripture was read, followed by earnest exhortation, then singing of revival hymns." Mr. Glazier was a fine singer, and frequently started a hymn during the service appropriate to what had been said, which was taken up by the congregation. One of Mr. Glazier's favorites was, "The judgment day is rolling round." Near the close of the service, as a great interest was manifest, Mr. Glazier asked all those who wished to seek the Lord to rise. A young lady quietly arose and asked to be prayed for. At the end of the service a vote was taken to see how many were in favor of their coming the following Sunday. Every hand was raised. When the next

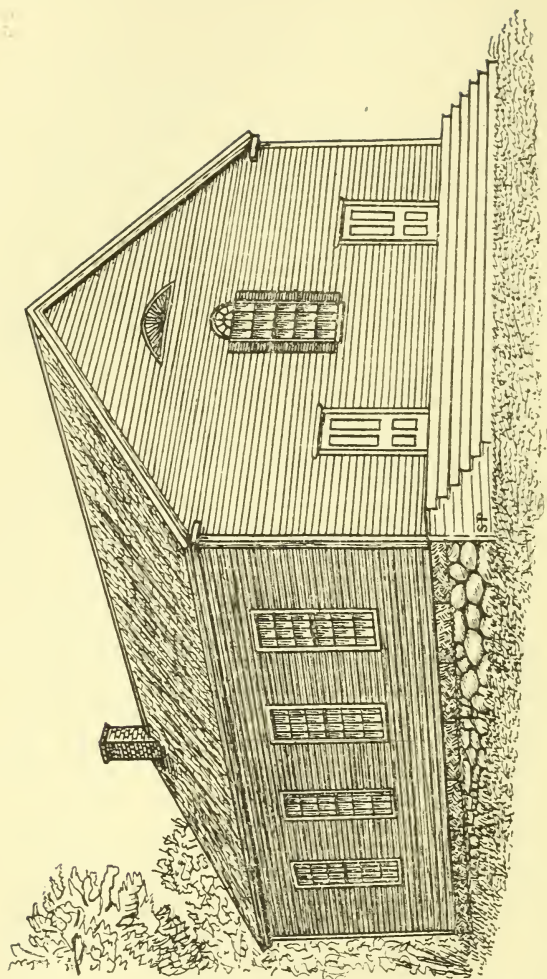
Sabbath came around a still larger number gathered in the school-house. Three meetings were held on that day. At the close of the third meeting a similar invitation was given as on the previous Sunday. In response to this invitation eleven arose and while standing the young lady who had asked to be prayed for on the previous Sunday arose and expressed the joys of her own salvation. At the close of the meeting held on the third Sabbath five more manifested a desire to follow Christ. On the following Sunday the school-house, which would seat about sixty persons, was so crowded that the brethren could hardly find standing room in which to address the people, of whom many were standing outside. Before separating that day some of those present said they would try to get permission to hold the meetings in Capt. John Adams' barn, which was large and commodious. This barn is now owned by Barney Mulligan. Permission was soon obtained and accordingly the barn was cleared and seats of rough boards provided for all who might come, and all agreed that it was a delightful place. As Mr. Glazier himself has said: "The swallows were feeding their young up in the top and singing to them, and down on the floor God was converting souls. How beautiful the thought that our dear Savior was born in a barn, and that He condescends to make this a place for redeemed souls."

Deacon Adams, grandfather of Mrs. Susan Perkins, and father of Mr. John Adams, who owned the barn where the meetings were held, had been a deacon of the Tabernacle

Church in Salem for twenty-five years and was an earnest exhorter, proving of great help in the meetings. Rev. Jacob Sanborn of Ipswich came and preached occasionally during that summer. In haying time, as the barn was needed, they were compelled to return to the school-house. A class meeting was organized and regular meetings held. The converts were put on six months' probation before uniting with the church as was customary. In August thirteen were baptized in the Ipswich river back of Captain Adams' barn. Joshua Wildes, Israel Wildes, Stephen Bartlett, David Hood, Phoebe Hood, Captain Israel Elliott, Mary Elliott, Mary Blaisdell, Celinda Averill and Clarissa Wildes were led into the water and immersed by Rev. Jacob Sanborn and three others were sprinkled while kneeling on the bank: Elizabeth Rust, Sally Adams and William Cummings. A large number of people gathered to witness the ceremony. The services consisted of singing, reading of scripture and prayer. The baptismal robes of the Ipswich Church were borrowed for the occasion. These were of a slate color with lead in the bottom of the skirt to prevent it floating on the surface of the water.

In September a young man, William Nanscawen, was appointed to this charge by the presiding elder. He remained only a few weeks and was followed by Rev. Isaac U. Swinerton, who remained until the following session of the Conference.

On Oct. 20, 1830 the society was organized into a Methodist Episcopal Church, called a branch of the Ipswich church, and had fifteen members.



METHODIST CHURCH IN 1840.

At the session of the New England Conference held in May, 1831, Rev. R. D. Easterbrook was appointed to this charge. He advocated the immediate erection of a church building and the members and friends entered heartily upon the work. Mr. Timothy Monroe of Lynn was engaged to build the house. He prepared the lumber and had it brought to Topsfield all ready to be put together. Land was given by Mr. Aaron Kneeland on the Newburyport turnpike. The frame of the building was raised Oct. 19, 1831 without the use of ardent spirits, which is very significant from the fact that at that time it was customary for the builders to be "strengthened" in their work by ardent spirits.

The building was forty feet square in size, having a plain pitch roof with chimney in the rear end. There were two doors at the front end opening directly into the audience room and located between them, high against the wall, was the pulpit built in the form of a semi-circle. At the rear were three raised pews or slips used by the singers. Two stoves, on either side and in front of the pulpit, were used to heat the room.

It was customary with the Methodist churches to hold in the Fall what was called "Four Day's meeting." In September the presiding elder appointed a camp-meeting here as there was, as yet, no church. Accordingly a maple grove belonging to Mr. John P. Peabody, on the old Ipswich road, was hired for four days for forty dollars. The underbrush was cleared away and large

trees felled for seats. A preacher's stand was erected and the different societies set up their tents about it in a circle. Societies came from Boston, Salem, Lynn, Newburyport and from many small towns in the district. They brought their tents, cooking utensils and other similar necessities in large baggage wagons. The meetings were conducted by presiding elder Lambert, assisted by the ministers in the district. Father Merrill and Father Taylor were two of the most important.

During the meetings one of the sisters went into a trance and appeared dead. Some wished to give her restoratives but others said, "No, she will come out of it all right and tell us what she has seen," and it so happened that she came out shouting "Glory to God."

A feature of the meetings was the enthusiastic singing of the congregation; also the great interest in the ministers words shown by hearty responses of "Amen!" and "Glory to God!"

The meetings went on gloriously for four days and many persons were converted. They were largely attended by visitors from all the adjoining towns, for an open air meeting had never before been held in this vicinity. Notwithstanding the great success of the meetings it was a number of years before another "camp meeting" was held and then at Asbury Grove, Hamilton.

Having referred to the camp-meeting the dedication of the church is the next incident of note, it occurring Dec. 28, 1831. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev.

Enoch Mudge of Lynn, using for his text II Chron. 6: 18: "But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!" Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. Jesse Fillmore of Salem. The house was crowded with an attentive audience. The interest manifested during the following year was good.

Rev. R. D. Easterbrook remained here one year. He was followed by Thomas Stetson, who removed from his appointment in June 1832. The only information which can be gained of his pastorate is the following brief notice in *Zion's Herald*:—"Our Zion here when seen by mortal eye appears quite feeble, and we are often ready to cry out with the prophet 'By whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small.' But when with an eye of faith we view the Lord as he is seen in all his works, a far more pleasant prospect opens before us. We have been cheered of late with some tokens of the Divine Presence in our meetings. Much more union prevails in the church, and a number of souls are enquiring the way to Zion. To God alone be all the glory."

At the session of Conference in 1833, Rev. David Culver was appointed to this charge.

Mr. Culver was the first married minister who was sent here by the Conference. They lived in the house where Miss Hattie Porter now lives, then owned by Mr. Jacob Towne, occupying two rooms, one on the lower floor, the other upstairs and at the opposite side of the house. The

rent was twenty dollars a year. A singular contrast to the accommodations now given our modern clergymen.

Mrs. Culver had a visage marked with intelligence. She wore a white satin cap crown bonnet, a drab-colored dress, a plain white shawl over her shoulders and always appeared singularly neat and plain. She was upright, graceful and remarkably active, and possessed a fund of anecdote that made her company agreeable as well as instructive. *Zion's Herald* of July 24, 1833 says the following of Mr. Culver's pastorate: "There is a general quickening in the church, and many appear to feel an unusual hungering and thirsting after righteousness and manifest that it is the longing desire of their souls to be filled with perfect love. There is also an increasing attention in the congregation to the preaching of the Word."

Mr. Culver remained one year and was followed by Rev. Benj. King, a licensed preacher from Lynn, who supplied a few weeks, when he asked to be removed. Mr. King was paid his expenses to and from Lynn but received nothing for his services as preacher. Rev. Charles S. McReading of Boston supplied until November. Previous to coming to Topsfield he was stationed in Salem, where, finding his people proud and arrogant, he preached them a sermon from the text found in Ecc. 10; 1: "Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour; so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour." The people resented it and he left at his own request. There being a vacancy at this church he came here.

His family consisted of a wife and one child. They occupied the same rooms as Mr. Culver. The society furnished their housekeeping goods, they being the first who were supplied with furniture by the society, and regularly received their Sunday morning breakfast of baked beans and brown bread hot from the brick oven of Mrs. Eunice Wildes.

In November, Rev. Henry Skinner was sent here by the presiding elder; he remained until July, 1835. During his pastorate many were converted. At this time the number of church members including probationers was twenty-three with a Sabbath school of between thirty and forty scholars. The society was then without a pastor till Jan. 1836 when the presiding elder appointed Rev. John E. Risley who remained till April. He was followed by Rev. S. E. Pike who remained till December. From December to July Rev. G. T. Poole a Lynn preacher supplied so acceptably that he was stationed here by the Conference for the following year. During his ministry eleven persons joined the church. In July 1838 Rev. G. W. Bates, brother to Lewis Bates, D. D., of Boston, was appointed here. He was a young man of pleasing address, full of faith in God and generally beloved by all the people. During the first part of his ministry he decided to have a "Four Day's Revival Meeting," beginning Sept. 26th. Such an interest was manifested that the meetings were continued until mid-winter. About one hundred souls were converted, of whom twenty-six united with the church, others joining the Congregationalists here, at Linebrook

and at Hamilton. The following is from Zion's Herald of Nov. 1838: "God is reviving his work in a most glorious manner in this place. Our church has been rising in spirituality; our meetings have been increasing in interest, and there have been awakenings and conversions among us for months past. Within a few days fifty persons have been brought from darkness to light and from the powers of satan unto God. The aged, the middle-aged and the young have been converted; but the greater number are young persons and a large proportion young men, promising much usefulness to the Church. Twenty joined us on trial last Sunday, and others are ready to do the same. Our church has been small from the beginning, numbering only thirty-four members last June. A few individuals have borne the burdens here for years. God is now adding to them grace and numbers. Of some large families in which there were no professors almost every member is converted to God. We hope this work will not cease until all are brought to the knowledge of the Truth. Our meetings continue very interesting. Praise is due our singers who are punctual in their attendance and perform their part of divine worship with spirit and with a good understanding. We feel very grateful also for the timely and faithful labors of Bros. Israel Washburn and George Knight, but all the glory belongs to God; for we were never more convinced that a work was His."

At the close of Mr. Bates' ministry July 1839, Rev. Chester Field was stationed here. During his pastorate,

as the congregation had come to be composed mainly of people from the village, it was decided to move the church to that part of the town. Accordingly it was started Jan. 9, 1840, Mr. Pearl Tapley of Tapleville moving the building with fifty yoke of oxen. It followed this route; through Mr. Aaron Kneeland's field, across the road over Mr. Simonds' plain now owned by Mr. Henderson, across the field between Boardman's and Simonds' over the meadow back of Mr. Batchelder's house, now owned by Mr. Cram, and through the field into the main road, then back of the houses of Abram Welch and Gilbert Balch. While it was going across the meadow back of Abram Welch's house the cable broke three times so that it was likely to have to stay there and some very uncharitable thoughts were expressed by some, that it was in a good place and they hoped it would have to stay there.

However it got along all right and was placed on land west of Main street near what is now the house of John B. Lake. The use of this land was donated by Mr. Richard Phillips. After moving the church it was repaired and painted for the first time at a cost of about two hundred dollars.

Rev. Mr. Field remaining here one year was followed by Rev. L. B. Griffin who held special revival services, as a result of which twenty-five persons joined the church on trial while fifty more were reported as attending class meetings.

In July, 1841, Rev. Amos Walton was appointed to this charge. He lived in the house now occupied by E. Otis Gould. During his ministry several persons united with the

church and the Sunday school was in a flourishing condition. The next minister was Rev. H. C. Dunham, who was followed by Rev. I. J. P. Collyer. He remained two years, being the first minister to remain that length of time. He lived in the stone house at the top of Pingree's hill, which was torn down a few years ago, attending meetings twice a week at "The City," during his first year. He carried on revival services in the churches. As he entered the door and while taking off his overcoat he would commence to sing his favorite hymn, "Jerusalem, my happy home, name ever dear to me." During his second year he lived in Mr. Billy Emerson's house, now owned by Mr. Humphrey Balch. His successor, Rev. Moses Webster, was transferred from the Maine Conference and stationed here in May, 1845. A very pleasant year was passed by pastor and people. He was followed by Rev. John Paulson, who remained one year. His successor was Rev. Wm. R. Stone, who remained two years.

In May, 1849, Rev. Kinsman Atkinson was appointed to this field of labor, and entered upon his pastorate with a determination to build a parsonage. He bought land of Mr. Thomas Lane and commenced to erect a building at his own expense. Soon the trustees assumed the task but the work went on so slowly that the building was not completed until the close of Mr. Atkinson's second year. Like Moses of old he could look into but could not enter the promised home. Mr. Atkinson was born in Maine and was one of twelve children. He was graduated from

Harvard College in 1834 and for five years preached from Congregational pulpits, but in 1843 he changed his views of church government and joined the M. E. church. While stationed in town he hired the 'Topsfield Academy' building and taught one term of eleven weeks. During his pastorate he also taught a winter term of school at Linebrook parish and at the East school in Topsfield.

Rev. John G. Carey, who was appointed here in April 1851, was the first minister to occupy the parsonage. He remained two years and took some steps toward erecting a more commodious church building. A building committee was appointed consisting of Andrew Gould, William Ray and Alfred Towne. The site selected was that upon which the church now stands. The land was bought of Mr. Humphrey Balch for four hundred dollars and the building now used was commenced. The architect was H. Graves of Boston, who being a Methodist gave his services. The carpenters were: Samuel Clark, Daniel Willey, Isaiah M. Small, Cyrus Peabody, William Welch, Jacob Foster and John H. Potter. The painters were: A. Harnden of Georgetown and James Henderson. Rev. Mr. Carey remained two years and was followed by Rev. A. F. Bailey who remained one year during which time the work of building continued.

In May 1854, Rev. J. W. Bemis, transferred from the Vermont Conference, was stationed here.

The church structure being completed was dedicated June 14, 1854. Through Mr. Andrew Gould's efforts the bell had been procured

and placed in position. Mr. William Ray donated the pulpit. Mr. John Cary gave the Bible and hymn book, Mr. Stephen Bartlett gave the communion service. The Ladies' Society furnished the house.

On the morning of the dedication the presiding elder, Rev. L. Crowell, preached the sermon. Rev. Mr. Collyer preached in the afternoon.

Mention has been made of the gift of a pulpit. In this connection it is interesting to note that the pulpit in the old building was given to Mr. Stephen Bartlett and in time came into the possession of James Manning, who gave it to Hon. George B. Loring of Salem.

The old church building was sold to Isaiah M. Small, who built it over into a barn at his house long known as "High Rock Cottage," from the fact it is modeled after singer John W. Hutchinson's house at High Rock, Lynn. It is standing today, the double window in one end having occupied the place of honor behind the pulpit in the old days.

When the present church was built, there was no public hall in town of more than very moderate seating capacity, so the lower story of the building was fitted up for use as a public hall in connection with church uses. A platform was built and here for many years the annual town meeting was held and public gatherings of whatever nature. The outbreak of the Civil War saw many stirring meetings and when the project of erecting a Town Hall was canvassed, one town meeting was adjourned from Union Hall, as it has ever been

known, to the wide expanse of the "common," until the constables could line up the "yeas" and "nays" and duly count the same.

Rev. Mr. Bemis remained till September. Mr. Huyler, a local preacher, supplied till the next Conference. His successor, Rev. John Smith, remained one year. In April, 1856, Rev. Franklin Furber was stationed here, who said of his pastorate, "It was remarkable only for accomplishing nothing." His successor, Abraham Osgood, held revival services. Thirty were converted.

The next minister, Rev. George Sutherland, gathered the fruits of his predecessor's revival. Soon after his arrival he learned that a heavy debt of three thousand and three hundred dollars was resting upon the church. Having consulted with the trustees and found them favorable to any plan for cancelling the same, he raised sufficient money by subscription and church aid to cancel the debt. The church should ever hold him in grateful remembrance for this noble service.

The Sunday when Mr. Sutherland preached his last sermon was long remembered in town. At its close he publicly announced that the services of the choir would be no longer needed.

This was a dismissal of Samuel S. McKenzie, who had served as chorister for many years.

In the old church he had introduced the use of instruments in connection with the singing and his brass clarinet, the product of his ingenuity, shrill in tone and

ever the object of much interest, now rests on exhibition in the rooms of the Essex Institute at Salem. Other players were John Peabody on the clarinet, Benj. F. Adams on the bass viol, and sometimes Frederick Stiles who was very proficient on the double bass.

In April, 1860, Rev. J. W. Lewis was appointed to this charge, passing a quiet year. His successor, Rev. A. D. Merrill, more familiarly known as "Father Merrill," was thought much of by the people. He tried to improve the parsonage grounds by planting trees and vines and raised sixty dollars' worth of strawberries on the parsonage land.

Rev. E. S. Snow, who was sent here next, was very well liked by the people. His successor, Rev. F. G. Morris, was a very talented preacher and remained two years. In April when Mr. Lincoln was shot, services were held in the churches all over the country. Mr. Morris preached the funeral sermon in this town.

In 1866, Rev. George Chapman was stationed here. At the last quarterly conference of the year it was voted to ask the Bishop to leave Topsfield "to be supplied." The vote was passed because the brethren thought it would be impossible to pay a minister enough to support him. During the session of the Annual Conference, however, the people changed their minds and wrote the bishop to try them one year more. Accordingly Rev. Wm. Bridges was sent here. In his words, "The budding and the blossoming was unpropitious but the fruit was good." During the first

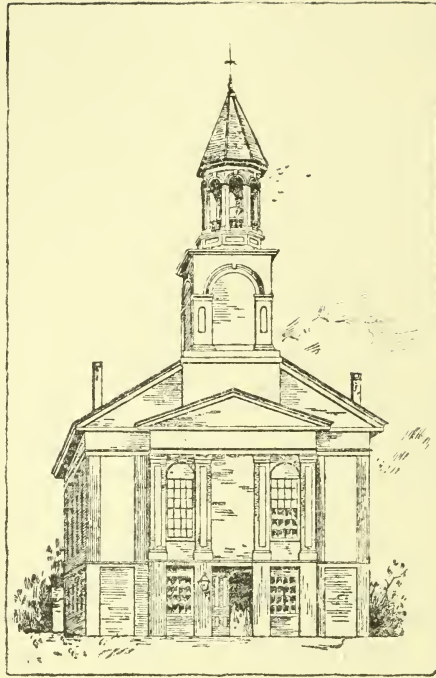
half of his first year the average attendance at midweek meetings was five, but in the winter revival services were held, continuing for several months. In these meetings, which were held for one hundred successive evenings, Mr. Bridges was assisted by Mrs. Holway, his wife's mother, also by his own mother, both very talented women. Eighty-five persons joined the church on probation.

Near the close of his first year an organ of English make, costing nine hundred dollars, was purchased, and the pastor's salary raised to one thousand dollars. His successor, Rev. C. F. Chase, remained one year. During that time the church was painted at a cost of four hundred and fifty dollars.

The next minister, Rev. J. F. Mears, was liked by every one. On August 3, 1870, it was decided to have a Sunday school picnic at a large grove at Groveland. About one hundred of the school attended and one hundred outsiders. The time was well enjoyed in sailing, singing, playing and swinging. About forty-four dollars were collected to defray the expenses of the children. The expenses were twenty-nine dollars and forty cents, leaving the balance of fourteen dollars and seventy-five cents, which the school voted to give toward erecting a new tent at Hamilton camp-ground. This, among other excursions and picnics, was largely due to the effort of Mr. C. J. P. Floyd. During Mr. Mears' pastorate one hundred and fifty dollars' worth of books were added to the Sunday school library, and new

furnaces costing three hundred dollars put into the church.

In 1872 Rev. S. A. Fuller received his appointment. His successor, Rev. G. W. Buzzell, worked hard amidst much discouragement. Some repairs, amounting to one hundred dollars, were made on the church. In April, 1875, Rev. W. H. Meredith was sent here. Beginning with a watch night service, near the close of his second year, he held special services every night, either in the church or in the district school house, until April. Quite a number of persons were converted, twenty-nine joining the church on probation. Rev. S. L. Rodgers succeeded him. He was followed by Rev. George H. Clarke. His pastorate is best described in his own words: "Upon coming to the place and learning that the spiritual thermometer was near freezing point, and the estimate for minister's salary of the previous year was only one-half paid, I was well nigh discouraged. But the promises of God were my support. From the beginning of my labors here until now I have worked as hard as my strength would allow, and have been permitted, by the blessing of God, to accomplish a few things, but if in this life only we were to look for our reward, and if, while in one short itinerant resting place, we are to look for all the results of our labor in that place, I should feel sad at the little accomplished. The thought, however, that some seed may yet spring up and yield an abundant harvest, so that 'in the harvest both he that soweth and



METHODIST CHURCH IN 1897.

he that reapeth may rejoice together' gives me some joy."

The 14th of June, the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the church was celebrated. Early in Mr. Clarke's second year some repairs were begun upon the church. The vestry was painted and kalsomined, a new platform erected, the halls painted and the organ moved from the gallery, to the right of the pulpit.

Beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 19 the semi-centennial of the church was celebrated, the services lasting one week. On Tuesday there was a grand concert of vocal and instrumental music, and reopening of the church. On Wednesday, semi-centennial day, several former pastors and members were present, also the presiding elder, L. Crowell, D. D. In the afternoon an excellent address was delivered by Dr. Crowell, prayer offered by Rev. Wm. Bridges and excellent music rendered by a select choir. A collation was served at five o'clock. In the evening brief speeches were made by former pastors and a social reunion enjoyed by the large number who had assembled at this time. A four days' meeting followed the anniversary. Rev. W. F. Mallalieu, D. D., of Chelsea, Rev. Geo. Whitaker of Cambridge, Rev. A. W. Baird of Groveland and Rev. S. F. Chase of Salem assisted in the afternoon and evening. Twelve persons were converted.

In February all debts to the amount of three hundred and twenty dollars were cancelled.

Mr. Clarke was returned for the third year.

Beginning on Dec. 14, 1881, an eight page paper, "The Topsfield Herald," was published on alternate Fridays until April 7th. One hundred and five dollars were realized from its sale.

On laying down the editorial quill Mr. Clark wrote as follows:—The time has come when, in accordance with the itinerant system of the Methodist Episcopal church, we move from this to some other field of labor. Our three years' stay in Topsfield has been exceedingly pleasant and we shall carry with us cheerful recollection of this delightful town, "beautiful for situation," and charming for a temporary country residence. The many kindnesses of the people, and tokens of esteem received from them, will not soon be forgotten.

In April, 1882, Rev. A. C. Manson was appointed. Although he was very conscientious and did his best, he did not meet with very great success.

In April 1883, Rev. N. H. Martin was stationed here. During his ministry there was great depression in business causing many families to move out of town. He was followed by Rev. James S. Docking.

In 1887, Rev. C. H. Curnick was appointed, remaining two years. In Jan. 1888, he had a three weeks' revival meeting at which thirty were converted. During this year the church was painted on the inside, new shutters put in and the steeple was cut down and remodelled at a cost of six hundred dollars.

Rev. Theodore Haven followed him, staying for one year.

In April, 1890, Rev. Charles Fuller

was stationed here. He was beloved by all and remained two years. Rev. Samuel Reid succeeded him, remaining one and one-half years.

From that time to the year 1896, the pulpit was supplied by students from the Theological School. Rev. Joseph Simpson was the first. While here he raised nearly two hundred dollars by church aid to repair the interior of the church.

The next student was Rev. John Reeder. He raised quite a sum of money for missionary purposes.

His successor was Rev. John B. Gough who was very quiet and retiring. The present pastor, Rev. I. Murray Mellish, is now entering upon his second year. Several new members have been added during his pastorate and the church still stands free from debt.



The Life and Work of Rev. Anson McLoud.

BY MISS HELEN E. PEABODY.

One scarcely realizes the meaning of biography till he begins to study and write the history of a life. Be that life long or short, complete or defective, fertile or barren, there is a sacredness about the individuality that makes one pause as he approaches the theme. The story of a life that originated with the infinite, possessing possibilities beyond human power to measure, and which only eternity can unfold, is not a subject to be carelessly or thoughtlessly treated.

The man whose life work we are about to consider was a typical New Englander of the old school, who served his generation before the days of Smyth and the Second Probation, and who would have had little sympathy with the "New Departures" or "Higher Criticisms" had he been in active service today. He would have been slow to accept and teach the later theology, not for lack of a progressive spirit, for his mind was ever on the alert to gain the newest element of advance, but because of his eagerness to hold against any innovation the great essentials of the spiritual life, and could not accept anything that savored of unsoundness.

Though Rev. Anson McLoud was a representative New Englander in many of his strong points of character, he possessed some qualities of mind and heart that are rare in any period or clime. He was mortal and

finite, with the weaknesses of our common brotherhood, yet he seemed to stand on a higher plane and breathe a purer atmosphere than most of his cotemporaries. There was a something in his bearing that at once arrested the attention and commanded the respect of every one with whom he came in contact.

His life on earth began June 22d, 1813, in the town of East Hartland, Connecticut. Like many another "who has left his foot prints on the sands of time," he was reared on a farm, which in many ways was of decided advantage, laying for him the basis of a strong superstructure. It was his good fortune to be the son of parents who did not think it beneath their dignity to plow and reap and gather into barns. Not only many of our poets, who like Bryant could sing, "To him, who in the love of nature holds communion with her visible forms, she speaks a various language," but many of our greatest statesmen, scholars and divines spent their earliest years where unrestrained they could revel in Nature's wonderland, and drink of many a fountain denied the city bred youth. The schools give much, books give more, but the free, every day acquaintance with nature's glories is needed in life's great lessons for the best moral and physical development. The farm life of Mr. McLoud taught him to sympathize with those to whom he minis-

tered during a long pastorate, to enter into their labors, limitations, and trials, and share in the affairs of a rural neighborhood, as no other training could have done. That his trapeze was the hay loft, his dumb bells the scythe, his Swedish Movement the rake and pitchfork, accounted largely for the strong, vigorous, physical health it was his privilege to enjoy till his service as pastor was completed. Mr. McLoud never owned a horse, and his visits to a scattered community were always made on foot. He learned the nearer and more convenient ways over pasture and field, brook and meadow, and did not hesitate to remove stockings and shoes in order to ford a stream. He invariably walked to Boxford, Georgetown, Wenham and Danvers when making exchanges, and was ready for another tramp when Monday morning came. No summer or winter vacations relieved the strain of this long and important pastorate, and when once invited to accompany a party of friends as guest, on the opening of the Baltimore and Ohio R. R., he declined to leave his charge even for a short time when there seemed signs of a spiritual awakening.

Mr. McLoud's early opportunities for gaining an education were limited, which no doubt in some degree accounted for his so eagerly seizing and prizing them when later presented, and also for his great desire to see all the young, who came under his influence, appreciate the value of an education. He never advocated a superficial, one-sided, half-finished development, but a symmetrical, all-round, mental, moral,

physical and spiritual education that would fit one for time and eternity.

At thirteen he entered a select school, where his mind began that unfolding which continued through his whole life, for he was a man who never ceased to grow. It was in this school that he received an inspiration to teach, which he subsequently did with acceptance for several years, indeed it might truthfully be said that he always taught, for he ever aimed to teach his people from the pulpit. During the years he directed the youthful mind in Connecticut, he boarded around, and often would he regale his intimate friends in after years with recitals of the varied and frequent ludicrous experiences of this eventful period of his life.

The college career of Mr. McLoud was spent at Yale, and his theological course was divided between Union and Andover. In 1841, when about to graduate from the latter institution, he made an agreement to preach in Candia, N. H. Mr. Blackmer, a fellow student, had promised to occupy the Topsfield pulpit on the same date, but for some reason felt disinclined to keep his engagement, and asked Mr. McLoud as a favor to go to Topsfield, which he did, Mr. Blackmer occupying the Candia pulpit. Thus was he introduced to our fathers, which proved to be the beginning of his long and only pastorate. The people heard him, were pleased, and called him to a ministry of twenty-seven years, closing in 1869. This was a time when pastoral engagements were not ephemeral, and although several times this leader could have gone to other fields

with increased salary, he felt he had a mission *in* Topsfield, and a message *to* Topsfield, and would not allow his conscience to be bruised by leaving. He believed he was called, and called to stay, and no temptation could swerve him from his purpose to do the specific work that he thought had been assigned him.

In the year of his settlement he married Miss Jane Cornish, who proved not only a companion, but a true helpmate in all his private and professional career. Gifted, like himself, with strong, scholarly instincts and religious convictions, she stood ready to aid him in any work for the benefit of the parish, and not only hand in hand, but heart with heart they trod the roadway of life, each an inspiration to the other, till 1883, when the beloved husband passed beyond the gates. Four children blessed this happy union, Willie, who went early to the home of rest, Helen, a mother of mature years, who has recently joined her father, and Malcolm and Norman, who still survive him.

From 1841-1869 was a well defined and marked period in the history of the Topsfield church, and Topsfield town as well, for whatever contributes to the welfare of the church is valuable to the town, as one cannot be a good churchman and a poor citizen. Religion and politics each have a distinct place in our life, but they are not so far divorced that they act in opposite directions. The Congregational church of Mr. McLoud's early ministry was composed of many strong families; of men and women of unusual fibre for a country town. Of more than ordi-

nary intelligence, character and mental ability, they were people who could think and act for themselves, and who would be led by, nor ministered to, by no man, who did not combine these qualities in a marked degree, and did not possess a strong personality.

The Historical Society does well to pause amid its researches to consider the character and influence of such families as the Huntingtons, Cleavelands and Todds, the Peabodys, Balches and Adamses, the Perkinses, Wildeses and Townes, whose names are a benediction; and to whom the present generation owes a debt it never can discharge. They were a tower of strength to the pastor, a power in the town, and the community today are enjoying the result of their force. They believed in the church and prayer meeting and supported them by their presence, pockets, and words; they had faith in the Town Meeting and the 4th of March found them discharging their obligations in civil affairs, as the Wednesday evening and Sunday witnessed to their zeal in spiritual matters. Each one seems appointed to a specific place and work, one sowing, another reaping, and as we glance over this period of history it appears clear that it was the sphere of Mr. McLoud to bring to glad fruition the labors of his predecessors. The great religious interest of 1832 and 1833, resulted in 111 additions to the church, and the awakening of 1840, the year preceding Mr. McLoud's coming, brought 41 more into membership, so that when in 1841 Mr. McLoud assumed the charge, the church was approaching

its maximum number, though it slowly but constantly received additions for many years. Those years of marvelous religious interest would naturally be followed by a time of seeming retrograde, but if the ingathering was comparatively small, they must not be considered years of stagnation. It was a period of growth, education and harmonious development of the church, and when it learned that to live, meant to go outside of itself.

It has already been said that this pastor was a true teacher, and it was this characteristic that reacted upon his parish. He instructed by constantly being an object lesson, because he was a student, and identified himself so closely with his people that he was able to direct their thoughts in the channels of his own thinking. He loved books, and as the years sped on, his attachment for them grew stronger and stronger, till he cherished the best as well known and well tried friends. To his little daughter, who was once treating a book harshly, he said, "Those who love books never hurt them." His knowledge of literature was phenomenal for a country pastor of those days, and the fact that he accumulated a private library of over fifteen hundred volumes, on a salary of never more than eight hundred dollars, shows he made many sacrifices to gratify his literary taste. He had the faculty of grasping an author's meaning without seeming effort, and easily assimilated the thoughts presented. To follow an author from step to step, to catch the thoughts and retain them, so that at the close of a book one can form a

symmetrical whole, is the mark of a well trained mind. No superficial, ordinary reader can do this. Says the Rev. Geo. L. Gleason when speaking on this subject: "In my visits to Topsfield during my theological course, it was always my custom and delight to spend one evening in the study of Mr. McLoud, examining and discussing the latest literary works, and the stimulus and guidance he afforded me were of inestimable value."

His pulpit style was didactic, forceful, rapid, concise, emphatic and clear. No one could fail to understand his meaning or misconstrue his intentions, for he was frank and sincere, and when his duty was clear, was fearless in rebuking a wrong. His gestures were few, but telling, and always left an impression of reserve force and unspent energy. His best efforts are universally conceded to have been done for special occasions. On Thanksgivings and Fasts he rose to the occasion, and his people expected and received a treat. It is to be regretted that his extreme modesty never permitted the publication of any of these discourses save one, that is now the property of this society. At the earnest solicitation of the leading spirits of the church the Thanksgiving sermon of 1852 was published and given free circulation in the town. It is a strong but calm review of the political situation, upon the text "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places, yea, I have a goodly heritage." Though written for the exciting days attending the advent of the administration of Pres. Pierce, the principles he lays down and the comments he gives are as applicable

now as then, and would make delightful and instructive reading for an evening gathering. It was his habit to prepare series of sermons on special subjects, which drew large audiences of people from this and adjoining towns. One of these holding a firm place in the memory was a series of expository sermons on several books of the Bible. They were productions, had they been put in permanent form, that would have been to Scripture students of great value. Another series which were very popular, and drew people from so long a distance as Salem to hear them, related to church history, and which was, at the earnest solicitations of Mr. Huntington and Mr. Lord, placed in the archives of the Essex Institute and are now its property.

A strong, energetic, healthful, life-giving, missionary spirit marked this ministry from beginning to end. This pastor believed in the conversion of the world, and that it is the province of the church to send the message to the remotest lands. It was not simply a theory, but a belief that permeated his very soul and which took tangible form in doing. To him the world was an organic unit, and to keep one nation or people in ignorance of the glad tidings was comparable to the loss of a vital part of the body. He had that larger, later, nineteenth century conception of missions which is the result of close scrutiny of man's relation to divinity, and critical study of the whole scheme of redemption. Of such cast were Judson, Goodell, and the broad-minded men that have carried the interests of the American Board for nearly a century. It was

his grasp of the oneness of the human race that led him, like our beloved Whittier, to voice the New England heart in advocating universal human freedom, and although he did not leave his sentiments embodied in imperishable verse, he did impress them on immortal lives. If one class of meetings stand out more prominently in the memory of this era than others, it was the Missionary Concert. Regularly, once a month, young and old came together for instruction and impetus, and "Among the many pictures, that hang on memory's wall," is the reverend pastor with pointer in hand and maps before him, giving the geography and missionary history of every land in turn. He never came to his task unprepared, waiting for a chance remark to give a suggestion, but he planned for every concert and prayer meeting conscientiously, and taught and encouraged the church to take up and discuss the subjects presented, which resulted in few silent moments.

Rev. Anson McLoud was gifted with strong personal characteristics, which were apparent to every one with whom he came in contact. To the stranger he seemed stern and unapproachable, but when once his confidence had been gained, he was free, social and winning, for never one lived with a kindlier heart or more lovable disposition. In speaking of him in this connection, one who knew him best quoted Cicero's opinion of Pompey: "Those that lived with him the longest were the happiest," and added "Those happy days when I was free to go to his home, wore away so fast without my think-

ing they would ever end."

In the sick room he was always a welcome visitor. One who was often the recipient of these pastoral calls has recently said, "I anxiously waited for his footstep, knowing he would have some word of cheer." Never did he leave the sick or afflicted without leaving his impress behind. He taught great lessons when making these visits, as well as from the pulpit, and it was often done in such a delicate, indirect manner, that the effect of the lesson would be intensified. One that came under his care was sick so long that she was discouraged and inclined to fret, and was well nigh the "Slough of Despond." After listening a suitable time to the tale of woe, he said: "I'll tell you a story I have recently heard if you will promise that you will not take it to yourself." Then he related an incident of an officer in the Rebel service, who was bemoaning his lot since his capture by the Yankees. He was swearing vociferously, when a Quaker approached him and said: "Swear, on my friend, swear on, for you can never enter heaven with all that in your heart." It is needless to say a personal application was made, and the lesson learned.

Extremely careful of others' feelings and desirous to avoid being a stone of stumbling, he often took steps most people would consider unnecessary. In the congregation was a regular attendant upon public worship, though not a member of the church, who possessed some very strong peculiarities. Mr. McLoud honored him, loved him, understood him, and always was very careful

never to strike against his sharp points. His greatest singularity was an avowed determination never to hear a Methodist preacher. It was the custom to exchange pulpits annually, and when the time came, it was the invariable habit of Mr. McLoud to walk to the outskirts of the town and inform Mr. S. of his intention, the Saturday preceding, so the brother could make arrangements for worship elsewhere. On one occasion, by some mischance, the notification was overlooked, and Mr. S. walked down the long aisle to the side of the pulpit. Discovering the intruder, he turned and quickly retraced his steps, much to the merriment of those that understood the situation. Upon apology Mr. McLoud was pardoned, but to his dying day Mr. S. never listened to a follower of Wesley.

Mr. McLoud was very careful of his statements when questioned. When in doubt, he would say "I am not quite sure of that. I shall have to think that over before I give an opinion." The same prudence extended to his financial affairs and domestic life. By strict economy and careful management, he gave each of his children a good, substantial education, built a comfortable residence, gave liberally to missionary enterprises, helped many of the poor in his parish privately, accumulated a large library and always kept out of debt.

A keen sense of humor pervaded his nature, and a quickness to recognize and appreciate true wit, and that it has a legitimate place in life, made him an agreeable companion when one had learned to know him.

In 1881, when the writer felt she was reading before a critical audience, "Mary had a little Lamb," she was gratified and encouraged when spying the grave and dignified pastor shaking with merriment, showing he recognized in the characters portrayed, the quick-witted Irishman, and the slow moving Dutchman. When speaking of him, Mr. Sewall of Lynn once said: "He is the life of our association."

Mr. McLoud's ideals were lofty, but the standard he set for others, he followed closely himself. Charity and generosity were prominent in his make up, as many a home of penury could testify, though he never allowed his left hand to know what his right hand did. His influence was not confined to the limits of the pulpit, for he was a citizen as well as a pastor. Duty and privilege were synonymous terms with him, and he considered it both, to cast his vote for the party that had the interests of state at heart.

The educational matters of the town were of great moment to him, as they are to all thinking and progressive men. When serving on the school committee, which position he held from 1875-1882, he knew every child by name, and it is safe to say there was no child but knew and loved him. From the printed reports it is clear he understood the true and more modern meaning of education, for his method of dealing with both teacher and pupil shows that he believed to awaken the dormant, mental faculties is of far greater value than to store the mind with facts. While he conceded that "knowledge is power," he recognized the greater

truth that the quality of the power depends upon the nature of the knowledge and the nature of the man who uses it. It is the tendency of knowledge to make good citizens, but the true function of education is to enable one to overcome all the insidious temptations to use knowledge for wicked purposes.

It is to the efforts of Mr. Sidney Merriam and Rev. Anson McLoud that we owe the town library. It is a grand monument to their memories, and an incalculable benefit to the town. Starting with a nucleus of 520 volumes gathered from the Old Athenaeum, Agricultural Library and the circulating library of 268 volumes, the property of the Ladies' Society, it has constantly enlarged its borders, till today Topsfield can boast of one of the largest and best selected libraries in Essex county. The collection of books formerly belonging to the ladies deserves a passing notice. They were all purchased by Mr. McLoud and paid for by the ladies, and comprised the best books of the day, there being none of lighter vein than the poems of Longfellow. This library was taken in a large clothes basket from house to house where the society chanced to meet regularly every two weeks, during the winter months. This is one of the many ways in which this pastor taught his people to read. Long familiarity with books made Mr. McLoud a valuable librarian, which position he filled with ability from the founding of the library until his death.

The love for the beautiful in nature, and a desire to be of service to his fellowmen led him to assist in

adorning the public common with the most lasting and attractive of trees. The lofty and graceful elms, as they raise their branches heavenward, speak to the passer-by from out the silence to come up higher, to leave the paths of sin and come into the purer realms of spiritual life.

In politics this clear headed man was a staunch Republican, but he never unnecessarily or beyond the proper limit brought state affairs into the pulpit. But when the country was in peril, or weighty matters to be settled, like our Revolutionary fathers, whose true son he was, he did not hesitate to freely speak his mind. It is not strange when his services were available, that his party should honor themselves and the town by sending him in 1872 to the state legislature, where his vote always told though his voice was seldom heard.

The Sabbath school always received Mr. McLoud's heartiest support, and as far as records show, the largest membership was in 1863 and 1864 when the numbers reached the astonishing figures of 210. Teachers' meetings were conducted by him several times for short periods, but languished for want of patronage.

It is due to the men and women of the Topsfield Congregational church of this time, and their descendants, to say that they were a large hearted, generous, unselfish people. They did not recognize the claim of a minister to a munificent salary, but gave liberally in the form of private gifts and surprise parties. The 25th anniversary of Mr. McLoud's settlement was a "Red Letter" day; few

happier occasions ever graced a pastor or people. Mr. Nehemiah Cleveland presided over the exercises at the church, and his speech, when presenting \$1000 as a gift from a grateful and united parish, was characteristic of that illustrious family. The reply of the pastor was calm, unembarrassed and dignified, his subdued voice showing he appreciated the situation. The collation following in Union hall, the music by a detachment of Gilmore's famous band, and the after dinner speeches by ministers and friends from abroad, contributed to make Dec. 8, 1867, a memorable occasion.

In the spring of 1883 Mr. McLoud was appointed with Mr. Samuel Todd as a committee upon cemetery improvements, and with his characteristic zeal, went to work with his own hands to beautify it. It was here under a scorching July sun that he received the stroke that proved to be the beginning of the end of his earthly life. After a few months of languor and decline he passed, Feb. 21st, 1883, from the vision of his loving friends to the companionship of those who had preceded him.

One of the most difficult questions a young man is called upon to decide is his vocation. As he steps over the threshold that separates youth from manhood, the question "What shall be my place in life?" confronts him, and often the decision proves a disaster for him and all concerned in his welfare. Many a good artisan has been spoiled by trying to make an artist, but no one could ever think of the subject of this sketch as mistaking his calling; that he was designed for the pulpit was apparent,

and no one ever questioned his ability to hold this sacred position.

As this sketch is brought to a close one naturally inquires the purpose of such an historical review. Why does this society peer into the by-gones and bring to view that which has been covered with a mantle of years? Is it from mere curiosity or an attempt to pass an idle hour agreeably; is it simply to put into tangible, permanent form, that which we wish our descendants to peruse, or is there a higher, nobler aim in taking these retrospects? Has the past of Topsfield any relation to its present and future? Have we as successors of a grand and honored ancestry any responsibility to our inheritance? If any permanent good is to result from these investigations, comparisons must be made, relations traced, deficiencies remedied, and reform and advance attempted. Human life is an organic whole; no one liveth to himself. We are here to act and react upon each other in manifold ways; to take up and carry on work planned by others, and so plan and execute that those who follow us will be benefited.

For nearly a half century Rev. Anson McLoud went in and out of the homes of Topsfield, ministering to spiritual necessities, directing educational interests, uniting in mar-

riage sons and daughters, weeping at the bier of loved ones, and in a modest, dignified, Christian way, touching every side of life. To fully summarize his work would from this point of view be impossible, but to discover the secret of another power is the surest path to our own success. Each church, town, or hamlet, as truly as empires, has its period of rise, power and decline. What the age of Elizabeth was to England, the era of Pericles was to Greece, the early and middle years of this century were to Topsfield. The Congregational church was then at its zenith of power, which, coupled with Mr. McLoud's strict adherence to duty and devotion to his work, unfaltering belief in what he preached, sincerity of soul and earnestness of purpose, a well balanced and properly trained mind and a consecrated heart, made this period of Topsfield's church history a conspicuous one, and this pastor a prominent figure in its life. He has passed on to a higher sphere of action, and from an exalted position we seem to hear his voice bidding us to be true to our trust; to make no compromises with evil; to stand firmly by the dear old church and all it represents, and sacredly guard the interests of our historic town.



TOPSFIELD AND ROWLEY VILLAGE MEN WHO TOOK THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND FIDELITY.

BY SIDNEY PERLEY.

THE oath of allegiance and fidelity to the sovereign might be required, by the ancient common law, of all persons above the age of twelve, and it was repeatedly used as a test for the disaffected. It was first imposed by statute in the reign of Elizabeth. Its early form was exceedingly strong and comprehensive.

Charles II was in special favor of the established church, and the fact that only members of the Congregational church had the right of suffrage in New England greatly disturbed him. His Episcopalian friends here were ever ready to inform him of incidents that could be construed to indicate the liberty and independence of the colonies. He had real cause for anxiety when the people dwelling north of the Merrimac river refused to obey his mandates and the officers whom he had sent to enforce them. Foreseeing this result, on the decision of the court in England in the Mason claim, in 1677, he immediately had the oath of allegiance and fidelity taken, and repeated it the next year. This repetition indicates how unsettled and alarming the condition of the country was at that time. This indication of distrust in England is given additional force the next year (1679) by the creation of a royal province in the northern portion of the Mason domain, and seven years later by the elimination of the principal part of the right of self-government of the Massachusetts Bay and other New England colonies, and placing them within the king's control.

The following lists of the inhabitants of Topsfield and Rowley Village, who took the oath of allegiance and fidelity in 1677 and 1678, are found recorded in Ipswich Deeds, Volume IV, the first on page 167 and the second on page 225, those marked by an asterisk, being of Rowley Village:—

A list of those of Topsfield who according to an order of the Gen'l Court appeared before Ens. John Gould, in decemb: and January 1677 and have taken the oath of Allegance & fidelity.

Tho : Perkins Jun.
 Zach : Perkins
 Timo : Perkins
 Issack Comings Jun.
 Jo : Comings Jun.
 Eliash Perkins
 Nath Comings
 Wm Howlett
 Issack Comings Sen.
 John Wiles
 Sam : Howlett
 John Prichett
 Wm Prichett
 Joseph Prichett
 John Hovey
 Ephr Dorman
 Tho : Dorman
 Isaack Pabody
 Tobiah Perkins
 John Perkins
 Timo Perkins
 Dan : Borman
 Wm. Averill
 Dan : Redington
 Nath : Hovey
 Math : Stanley
 John Stanley
 James Watters
 Wm Towne
 Joseph Towne
 Mich Dunill
 Jo : Nicolls
 Isaack Burton
 Peeter Shamway
 Wm Nicolls
 Tho : Looke
 Tho : Cave
 Phillip Knight

Wm Hobbs
 Isack Estie, Sen.
 Jo : Robinson
 Isaack Estie, Jun.
 Joseph Estie
 Jacob Townes
 John Townes
 Daniell Clarke
 Evan Morrice
 Mr. Wm Perkins, Sen.
 *Tho : Andrews
 Sam : Stanley
 *Josiah Bridges
 John How clark
 Tho : Newmans (?)
 *Jo : Vinton
 *Arthur Carry
 John Curtise
 *Zache : Curtise
 *Joseph Pabody
 *Jo Kimball
 Ben : Bixbie
 *John Stiles
 *Jo : Andrews
 *Joseph Andrews
 *Dan : Blake
 Jonah Lookes
 Antho Baker
 *Blaze Vinton
 Jo : — man
 Tho : Tower
 *Robt Smith
 *Robt Stiles
 *Jo : Kemball
 *Dan : Wood
 *Sam : Simon & his three men not
 taken oath.

These of Topsfield & Rowle village. The maior Genell gave the oath
 of Alegence the 18th of Dcembar 1678, a list

mr Jery : Hubbord
 mr Wm Perkins senr.
 mr John Baker

Michael Dunniell
 John Nicolls
 Isaack Burton

mr John Bradstreet
 mr Tho : Baker
 mr Wm Perkins junr
 Lift. ffra : Pabody
 Ens : John Gould
 *sergt Jo : Pabody
 sergt Isaack Comings
 sergt Ephr : Dorman
 Corp^{el} Jacob Towne
 John ffrench
 Isaack Esteye senr
 John Wild
 sergt Jo : Redington
 Thomas Perkins
 Joseph Towne senr
 Daniell Clarke
 John How
 *John Comings senr
 William Averill
 Sam : Howlett
 William Howlett
 Daniell Borman
 Tho Dorman
 Mathew Stanley
 Tho : Perkins junr
 Zacheous Perkins
 Timo : Perkins
 Isaack Comings junr
 John Comings junr
 Nath : Comings
 John ——
 John Pritchett
 Will Pritchett
 Joseph Pritchett
 Wm Pabody
 Isaack Pabody
 Tobiah Perkins
 John Perkins
 Timo : Perkins
 Dan : Redington
 John Stanley
 James Watters
 Wm Townes
 Joseph Townes junr
 Thomas Townes

Peeter Showway
 Will Nickles
 John Robinson
 Thomas Caue
 Phill : Knight
 Wm Hobbs
 Isaack Estye
 Joseph Estye
 John Estye
 John Townes
 Jacob Towne junr
 John Curtice
 *Zakory Curtice
 Tho : [Neumans?]
 Evan Morice
 John Clarke
 Anthony Baker
 John Gould junr
 *Sam : Symons
 *Tho : Andrews
 Sam : Stanley
 *Josiah Bridges
 *Joseph Pabody
 *John Kimball
 *Robert Stiles
 Benjamin Bixby
 *John Andres
 *Joseph Andrews
 *John Stiles
 *Daniell Black
 Jonath : Looke
 *Blaze Vinton
 *John Vinton
 *Arther Carey
 *Robert Smith
 *John Ramsdell
 John Havens
 Nath : Nurce
 Joshua Betion
 *Sam : Busell
 *Tho : Comings
 Jacob ffoster
 *ffrancis Lathe
 Elisha Perkins

TOPSFIELD BILL OF ESTATE,
MADE BETWEEN 1723 AND 1725.

	Poles	Personal Real estate estate			
Wedo Hannah and ann Aurel	0	0 0	01 11	00 6	
Nathaniel aurel	3	7 6	03 0	01 8	
Wed Mahitabel aurel	1	2 6	02 11	01 2	
Joseph andrew	1	2 6	02 6	00 6	
lef Thomas Baker	3	7 6	05 3	03 1	
mr Simon Bradstret	1	2 6	04 0	01 4	
Samuel Bradstret	1	2 6	02 11	01 7	
Beniamin bixby	1	2 6	01 6	00 9	
Joseph Borman	2	5 0	01 7	01 3	
nathaniel borman	2	5 0	03 6	01 10	
Dauid Baultch	2	5 0	00 6	00 2	
Daniel Clark	3	7 6	02 5	01 8	
wed and John Clark	1	2 6	00 9	00 3	
Jacob Clark	1	2 6	00 0	00 0	
mr John Capen	1	2 6	01 4	00 4	
nathaniel Cepen	1	2 6	00 0	00 0	
Joseph commings	1	2 6	01 4	00 10	
Joseph commings Jun	0	0 0	00 9	00 0	
lef Ephraim dorman	2	5 0	03 3	01 8	
Jesse dorman	1	2 6	02 8	01 4	
wed Deborah dorman	0	0 0	01 7	01 3	
Jacob Esty	1	2 6	02 3	01 2	
ens John Gould	3	7 6	03 1	01 5	
Thomas Gould	3	7 6	01 4	01 2	
lef Joseph Gould	1	2 6	03 2	01 7	
Zacheus Gould	1	2 6	01 10	01 3	
[Samuel?] Gould	2	5 0	60 3	00 2	
Thomas garr	1	2 6	01 8	00 9	
cap John How	0	0 0	01 10	00 10	
sar John Howlett	2	5 0	03 3	01 9	
Samuel howlet	1	2 6	01 9	01 1	
John houe	2	5 0	02 1	01 8	

	Poles	Personal		
		Real estate		estate
Iuory houey	1	2 6	02 8	01 0
nathaniel hood	0	0 0	01 4	00 6
Beniaman how	1	2 6	00 0	00 2
Joseph how	1	2 6	00 0	00 0
Samuel lamson	0	0 0	00 5	00 0
Elizar lak	2	5 0	04 9	01 8
Edward nealand	0	0 0	00 11	00 0
Philip nealand	0	0 0	01 1	00 0
mr Isaac pabody	2	5 0	07 6	02 0
sar Jacob pabody	2	5 0	02 10	01 4
Iaac pebody Jun	1	2 6	00 0	00 2
cap Tobiaa pirkins	1	2 6	03 6	01 6
mr Tobiaa pirkins	1	2 6	00 2	00 9
cap Thomas parley	0	0 0	00 0	00 2
wed and Timothy pirkins	1	2 6	02 3	01 2
John prichard	0	0 0	00 11	00 5
Thomas perkins	1	2 6	03 6	02 1
Zacheus perkins	1	2 6	02 3	01 0
Elisha purkins	3	7 6	04 3	02 2
Timothy purkins	3	7 6	02 8	01 4
ens Timothy purkins	4	10 0	03 6	02 2
Thomas purkins Jun	1	2 6	01 1	01 0
John purkins	1	2 6	01 5	00 9
Johnathan purkins	1	2 6	00 5	00 4
Jacob purkins	1	2 6	00 5	00 4
Dea Daniel Redington	3	7 6	04 4	01 5
John Redington	0	0 0	00 0	00 2
Daniel Redington Junr	1	2 6	00 0	00 6
Jacob Redington	1	2 6	00 0	00 2
mr John and Jacob Robinson	1	2 6	02 9	01 2
Joseph Robinson	1	2 6	01 3	00 6
Samuel Smith	1	2 6	01 4	00 11
William Town	2	5 0	02 0	01 3
Joshua Town	1	2 6	01 0	00 11
John Town	1	2 6	02 0	00 11
Jacob Town	1	2 6	00 0	00 5
Ephraim Wilds Senr	2	5 0	03 2	01 3
John Wilds	2	5 0	00 7	00 6
Ephraim Wilds	1	2 6	00 0	00 2
Jonathan Wilds	1	2 6	00 0	00 2
Jonathan borman	1	2 6	00 0	00 0
Jems gloid	1	2 6	00 0	00 0

						Personal
		Poles		Real estate	estate	
John curby	1	2	6	00	0	00 0
John wilerd	1	2	6	00	0	00 2
John houiey Junr	1	2	6	00	0	00 0
Samuel Robenson	1	2	6	00	0	00 0
Robord purkins	1	2	6	00	0	00 2

COUNTY RATE MADE THE 18 OF NOVEMBER 1668 FOR TOPSFIELD.

Tho Avery	4	3	Tho Hobes	13	1
Will Avery	6	0	Ensigne Howlett	4	10
Tho Baker	6	6	John morall	9	11
Tho Browning	8	4	Evans Mories	2	0
Mickall Boudon	2	8	Jon Nickols	2	9
Daniel Black	3	6	Will Nickols	11	8
Daniell Borman	14	4	Frances Pebody	1	4 2
Edmand Bridges	4	6	Joseph Pebody	5	7
Samuel Cuttler	8	11	Mr Wm Perkins	12	9
Daniel Clarke	9	5	Tho Perkins	1	1 6
Antony Carell	5	6	Debory Perkins	2	0
Isack Cummings Sr	7	3	Will Prichat	5	0
Isack Cummings jr	10	0	John Redington	1	1 10
Mickall Donell	5	6	Jon Robinson	2	10
Ephraim Dorman	8	0	Mathu Stanley	7	10
Tho Dorman	9	6	Will Smith Corp	4	4
Isack Estey	9	8	William Towne		
John French	8	6	Joseph Towne	11	6
mr Gilbert	4	6	Jacob Towne	7	6
Jon Gould	1	2 0	Edmond Towne	14	3
John How	12	6	James Watters	4	0
Mathu Hucker	2	8	John Wilds	13	3
John Hovey	9	6	Luke Waklin	1	0

FRANCES PEBODY	} Selectmen.
JOHN GOULD	
THOMAS BAKER	
DANIEL BORMAN	

THE
EARLY RECORDS
OF THE
TOWN OF TOPSFIELD,
MASSACHUSETTS.

TRANSCRIBED BY GEO. FRIS. DOW.

CONTINUED FROM VOL. II, PAGE 52.

Apon Ipswich or Rowly Refuesing to agree With or men to Lay out a Country roade from Rowly to Topsfeild thay haue power in ye Name of or Towne to moue ye Honorable Court for helpe in this Case. Voated

At A Lawfull Meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the 16 of may 1684.

The Towne did mainfest by Voat that thay ware Willing to proseed to ordanation With Mr Joseph Capen.

The Towne has manifested by Voate to answer Mr Joseph Capen desier in sending to fne Churchis for mesengers to Mr Capen. Voated

Lliut Pebody Deacken Perkins Lliut Baker Ensigne Pebody John Houey Corpr Townes Isacke Estey Senr & John Gould Senr are Chosen to provide for Mr Capen ordanation and the Towne and Church to pay for ye Charges thay bee out about it in such as thay Lay out Ether in Kind or eles in that as ye Law dos say is equeliant to it. Voated

The Commitey that was Chosen to Lay out to Mr Capen twelue Eackers of Land & medow & swamp is impowered to goe and recttife there Line alredy rune and if that dos not reach the Coues of medow but by adding then thay haue power to Lay ye Coue or Coues of medow to Mr Capen. Voated

Wee whose names are Vnderwriting being appoynted som for Ipswich and P Ipswich Towne and som for Topsfeild and P Topsfeild Towne to settell the Line betwext said Townes haue agreed as followeth that the Line shall Rune: and is settled from a planted Tree in a stomp in Thomas perely his feild to

a black oak Tree marked with a heape of stones at it: soe to a whiat oak Tree marked with a heap of stones at it and soe on a streight Line to a pond Called Mr Bakers pond: and then the pond to be the bounds till it Comes to the soe east end of the pond: till it Comes to a White oak Tree marked & a peice of medow: and then to run on a streight Line to another White oak Tree marked with a :T: on the south sid an :I: on the north sid With a heape of stones at it, neer the farme formerly Mr Symonds his farme: still Running one a streight Line to that farme, and soe on a Line to the brooke, and then as the brooke Runeth till it Comes into Ipswich Riner: Mr Symonds farme being included in Topsfeild bounds: Topsfeild men subscribing haue a greed to all aboue Written upon the acount that the prouiso in Ipswich Towne Grant to Topsfeild with Respect to their Catle Trespassing be noe more Liable to pay then other Townes for their Catle Trespassing in Witness where of The perties appoynted by their seuerall Townes haue sett to their hands this 28th 2 month 1684 ssigned & In prsence of Wittnesses P the perties sent P Ipswich to the perties Concerned for Topsfeild.

John Wilds	Daniell Epps
John How	Thomas Wade
Jacob Townes	Simon Stace
Ephrom Dorman	Nehemiah Jewet
John Houey	John Appleton
	Thomas Burman Senr

Wittnesses

Joseph Goodhou

John Whipple

This is a true Copey Compared with ye orignell Vnder there hands

of both parties by both Townes as they were apointed by there Townes as atested P me John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild

Witnes to ye truth of the Copey
John How Epherim dorman

At a meeting of the Towne of Ipswich the 17th of Apriell 1684 Called about Runing the Line betweene Topsfeild and Ipswich appon a motion made by the selectmen of Topsfeild to the selectmen of Ipswich for that end: it was at this Towne meeting Voted that Capt John Appleton Capt Daniell Epps Lliut Thomas Burnum and Mr Nehemiah Jewett should be adJoyned With Mr Thomas Wade and Ensigne Stace Who weare formerly appointed by the Towne to Run Lines as there should be occasion To Run this Line betwene ye Towne of Ipswich and Topsfeild and to settell the Bounds according to former agreement betwene the fore said Townes as may appeare Vpon Records: and if there appears no agreement Vpon Record: then the Towne by there Vote haue giuen to ye gentlemen a boue named full power to make a full agreement and settle the Bounds Betweene the said Townes as thay in there Wisdom shall thinke best to be done.

At a Generall Towne meeting february ye 9th 1651 Vppon the petition of Topsfeild the Towne haue Referred the disposing of the Common ground neere the new medowes to the seauen men.

At ye same Towne meeting Granted to Ensigne Thomas Howlett six acres of Vpland to be Joyned to the farme which hee bought of Mr

Roggers Wheare the said Ensigne haue built his house.

Granted and sold Vnto Ensigne Howlett a littell stripe of Land Lying Betwene him and Daniell Clarke

At a Towne meeting ffebeuary 19th 1660 Granted Ensigne Howlett to exchang a small percell of Land according as Richard Jacob Mosis Pengry and Robart Lord in the behalfe of the Towne Veiwing of the same shall Judge meete to Lay it out to him.

At ye Towne meeting hild the 18th february 1661 Granted to Ensigne Howlett to Exchange a percell of medow wth the Towne Vppon Equall Teirmes as shall be Judged meet by Deacon Goodhue and Richard Jacob prouided that if the said Ensigne Howlett doe not make good the titell of the medow he doth Exchange that then this grant to be Voide.

Thes six perticelers aboue written are True Coppies taken out of the Towne Booke of Ipswich as thay are there Recorded.

P John Brewer Clarke of ye
Towne of Ipswich.

Apriell 23 1684

Thes are True Copies of those Copies as atested P mee John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

Witness to the Copyes as thay be prsented to Vs Vnder ye Clarke of Ipswich hands besides or Clarke hand:

John How William Smith Jur

At A Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfeild the 19 agust 1684.

William Aueriell senr is Chosen Commisenor for the Towne of Tops-

feild for this yeare to goe to the Sheere Towne to Joyne with ye Commisioners there.

At A Lawfull Towne Meeting the 26 of Noumber 1684: our Towne of Topsfeild Considring the great Euell that may Come by so Contending Eache Towne one with ye other and especly in this Time when we haue Case to feare an enemie may Come and breake or pease and take or prilidges from Vs Wee doe propound to ye Towne of Salam to Chose a Commite to Sttell the six miles extent Line from there meeting house toward or Towne and to giue there Commitee ffull power to Settell a Lline with a Commite Chosen by or Towne for that end and for both Townes to Chose men to bee of the Commites to bee such as are not preposeded or any wayes Consarned in ye Case and this Wee doe desier ye Gentellmen selectmen of Salam to propound to there Towne and to send Vs there Townes mind: Lliut Baker is Chosen to Carey this to ye seclctmen of Salam and to prsent it to them as the Towne of Topsfeild desier to bee prsented to ye Towne of Salam as aboue said.

Voated

Seuerall Rates made and deliuered to ye Constabell of Topsfeild this 20 of Jenewary 1684.

To two singell Contrey rates one to be paid in money the other in Corne ye Countrey demand is 15lb the rate as it is made is £15-13-02

one Towne Rate amounting to 07lb 16s 04.

one Rate for ye ministrey in ye yeare 1684 the same is 75lb whereof

twenty pounds of it is to be paid in siluer 75-00-00

one Rate for ye ordanation of mr Capen Comeing to 08lb 06s 02d
Topsfield feb 24th 85.

This may signify to whom it may concern that I haue reseued of Constabell Ridington that is Daniell Ridington that half Rate which was made for me upon ye acount of ye menestry in Topsfield & committed to ye said Redington to gather for me which was for part of ye yere 82 & part of ye yere 83 I say reseued by me ye full of that rate or that of ye constable which was to my full satisfaction as witnes my hand ye day and dat a houe written.

Joseph Capen

This is a true Coppy of that reseight taken and entered by me Ephraim Dorman,

Recorder for Topsfield
Topsfield the 22 fabruary 1686 or 87.

a single Country rat mad by order of his Exselencye & Consell & committed to Constable Comings to gather ye totall amounting to seauen pounds thirtene shillings and two pence.

Boston the 25th may 1687.

Reseued of Isaac Comings Constable in the Towne of Topsfield seauen pounds thirtene shillings being the Cuntry rate for said Towne and is in full for the same.

John Vsher Treasurer

this is a true Coppy of the Treasurers reseight entered by me Ephram Dorman recorder for Topsfield.
witnes

John How Isaac Pabody

We Whose Names are Vnder
Wrighteen being apointed by ye
Towne at a towne meeting ye 16 of
may 1684 to ade to mr Capen Line
ye Coues or Couess of medow, haue
don it wee marked ablake ocke stand-
ing about one rode from ye medow
side and so ruining apon a straight
Line from that tree to both Corner
of ye fence as it now stands this 2:
march 1684 or 85.

witnes or hands

frances pabody
jjohn Wiles
John Redington
Jacob towne
John Gould

At a Lawfull Meeting of ye Town
of Topsfeild ye 16th of May 1684.

the Town did manifest by vot
that they were willing to proceed to
ordination with Mr Joseph Capen.

Voted

The Town has manfested by vote
to answer to Mr Joseph Capens
desier in sending to five Churches for
MesenJers to Mr Capens Ordain-
ation.

Voted

Lliet Peabody Deacon Perkins
Lliet Baker Ensigne Peabody John
Hovey Corpll Townes Isaac Estey
senr. and John Gould are Chosen to
provide for Mr. Capens Ordination,
and ye Town and Church to pay for
the charges they be out about it;
such as they lay out; Ether in Kinde
or in that as ye Law doth say is
Equivolent to it.

Voted

The Comitie that are chosen to lay
out to Mr. Capen Twelve acres of
Land and Medow & Swamp, is Im-
powered to go and Rectifie three
Lines at redg tonne and if that do

not reach the Cove of Medow, then
they have power to Lay out the
Coves of Medow to Mr. Capen.

At a Lawfull Town Meeting the
6th Day of october 1685 the Town
has menifested by vote that they will
Chuse a commitie to Treat with
Rowley Villagers to see what they
will pay towards the maintainance of
our Minister by the Year. Voted

Lliet Baker Deacon Perkins
SarJt. Dorman SarJt. Towns and
William Averell Senr. is Choen a
Commitie To Treat with Rowley
Villagers to see what they will give
towards the maintainance of our
Ministry by the year and to make
Return of it to the Town.

at A Lawfull Towne meeting ye
3 march 1684 or 85.

John Gould was Chosen to be ye
Towne Clarke to kepe ye Towne
booke of reckads for Topsfeild for
ye year insueing.

Elisha perkins is Chosen Consta-
bell for Topsfield for ye yeare in
sueing.

Voated

Sargt Redington Lliut Thomas
Baker Sargt Ephram Dorman and
Samuel Howlett and John Gould are
Chosen seectmen to order ye pre-
dushall afares of the Towne for this
yeare, but thay haue noe power to
despose of ye Towne Land. Voated

The Towne has by Voate declared
that thay doe grant to mr Capen to
be a Comener in the Towne with
orselues.

Voated

The Towne has manifested by
Voate yt thay will Chose men to
rune out ye mile & quarter which is
not yet rune out with Salam a Cord-
ing to agreement and so on apon ye

same piont of ye Compas. Voated

Corpr Houey & Isacke Estey and John Gould are Chosen and impowered to rune out ye mile & quarter which is not yet rune out aCording to a greement with Salem men and so one as there a greement is provided thay shall not any wise weakn ye power formerly granted to Liut Baker Sargt Townes & Sargt How.

Daniel Redington samuel standly are Chosen seruayeres for hie wayes this in sueing year. Voated

Isacke pebody & Isacke Estey Junr are Chosen fence Veveeres for this in sueing year. Voted

Isacke Estey senr is Chosen Juer-eyman of Trialls for this next Court at Ipswich. Voted

the Towne has Chosen there psent selectmen to Veve What is by Lliut pebody & John Gould taken out of ye old Towne Booke and subcribed into ye new and see if there is any more to betake out and what ye maior part of them doe agree two the Towne shall stand two. Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the 14 march 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Et Was Voted that samuel symons should take pay of those yt doe seet in ye seeats that hee dos set Vp at ye east end of ye meeting house thay being Constant Contruibatrs to ye word of god here at Topsfeild aCording to there ability. Voated

William Auerell senr Enters his Contrey desents to ye Voate aboue wrighten.

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 14 march 1684-5.

The Towne doth order that ye the grounds and Cases of any Towne meeting that shall be a greeed Vpon

and noties giuen together With Waring of the meeting to the Inhabitance and it shall not be Lawfull for any thing to be acted in any Towne meeting but What there shall be noties giuen of When such meetings shall be Warned, VnLess some Vergant aCations shall fall out that Could not before seeme to be a Voaided.

Voated
The Towne dos agree that Leagall noties for Waring Towne meetings shall be in Wrighting Ether Vnder ye Constabels hand or selectm hands and it to be set Vp one ye meeting house dores. Voated

The Towne dos pase a Voate that if any man or men doth goe thore any man Land Where there is no hie Way and Leaue doune the fence shall pay afine of fise shilings for Euerey such default. Voated

at a Lawfull meeting of ye ffreemen of Topsfeild ye 28 Apriell 1685, mr William perkins is Chosen Grandjuror man for ye yeare insueing.

Voated
At A Lawfull Towne meeting ye 19 of may 1685.

The Towne dos giue full power to the psant selectmen to reckon With mr Thomas Hunter Atuereney to prizzilah Throw alias Hunter bareing date ye 7 day of May 1685, to Cale or demand for any part or parcell of Lluke Waklin Estate, the Towne Voated that ye selectmen should giue him an a Count and Deliuier all the mouabell Estate of Luke Waklien as ye selectmen had taken into there hands, all but What ye selectmen was out about in maintaing Luke Waklein duering his naterall Life and at his bueriall, and all ye rest of ye state to be deliuered to ye

aboue said Thomas Hunter for any house or Land that Was Luke Waklen ye Towne nor selectmen neuer had it in there hands. Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 6 day of october 1685.

The Towne has mainfested by Voate yt thay will Chose a Commitey ffrindly to treat With Rowley Viligers to see what they will pay towards ye maintnance of or minister by ye yeare. Voated

Lliut Baker Deackou perkins sargt Ephram Dorman sargt Townes and William Auerill senr is Chosen a Commitey to treat with Rowley Viligers too see what thay will giue towards ye maintnance of or minister by ye yeare and to make returne of it to the Towne. Voated

May ye 20 1685.

I Thomas Hunter Atuerency to my Mother prizzalah Throw alies Hunter doe hereby aquite and discharge ye selectmen of Topsfeild in ye behalfe of ye Towne of Topsfeild of all ye moueball Estate yt was Luke Wakline in Topsfeild; for they haue giuen mee a full and true an a Count of all yt was deliuered to pete[r] Chomway by ye selectmen and deliuered it to mee and what wase in other men hands thay haue giuen mee an a Count of, whereby I doe discharge ye selectmen in ye behalfe of ye Towne and peter Chomway from any part of this Estate before men-
cened in as full and ampley amaner as my mother Throw alies Hunter Could a done and if shee was here prsant her selfe, whereby I doe by this prsant a quite discharge and release ye selectmen and peter Chomway from all and Euerey part & parcell of yt Estate aboue men-

ened as witnes my hand ye day & yeare aboue wrightteen.

Thomas Hunter
this was seigned & deliuered in ye prsant of Vs.

William smith senr and Joseph smith.

at a lawfull Town meting the 2 of march 1685: 86.

Sargant Ephriam dorman is chosen clark to kepe the Town Book for this yere iuSuing. uoted

at a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86.

Leiut. Gould Leiut Thomas Baker Corpll John Houey mr Tobiihah pirkins Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere inseuing. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 John prichet is chosen Constable for this preasent yere in sewing. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 Isack Easty senr is Chosen Jury man for trialls to atend the next seations of the Court held at Ipswich after the dat hereof. uoted

at a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 the Towne hath freed John prichet from the a boue mentioned choyse of a constable. uoted

at a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 Sargent Isack Comings is Chosen Constable for this yere insewing. uoted

at a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 daniell Redingtun and John Robison are Chosen seruayers for high wayse for this yere insewing. uoted

at a lawfull Towne meeting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 John Towne and

and Timmothy pirkins are Chosen fence uewers for this preasent yere insewing. uoted

at a lawfull Toune meeting the 2 of march 1685 or 86.

in answer to Mr Capense desire spesified in wrighting to the Toune for the grant of a small pece of land as his barne stands on and for a yard; the Toune hath granted ten rod of ground and what his barn stands on and for a leanto. uoted

and Isack Easty senier and Corppl John Houey are Chosen to lay out the aboue said land to Mr Capen. uoted

at a lawfull Toune meeting 2 of march 1685 or 86 in answer to Corporall Smiths desire to the Towne to renew the bounds of the parsonidg land: the Toune haue Chose Lieut peabody Isack Eastye senr and Corppl houey to renew the bounds aboue mentioned. uoted

at a lawfull Toune meeting 2 of march 1685 or 86 in answer to Isack peabodys desire manifested to the Toune for a seate in the meting house that is to set up a seat by the galery staires: the Toune hath granted his request. uoted

up on the 16 of the first month in 86 we who weare apionted by the Toune as apers in the Toune book Corppl John Houey and Isack Eastye senr haue laid out the land to Mr Capen a bout his barne in this manner ten foot for a leantoo on the west ende and then three rod square on the south side of the barne and one rod at the east ende staked out with four stakes and rocks at the stakes.

Isack Easty senr
John Houey senr

Wee Lieut sfrances Peabody Isack Eastye senr Corppl John Houey sargt John Redington being Chosen by the Toune and selectmen to settle the bounds of the Parsonage land and haue acordingly dun it and haue measured out thirty acers of vpland and swamp to the southward of mr Pirkinsis field: from mr Pirkins his line three score rod & haue marked a swamp oake neere to mr Pirkins his line: a blak oack at the south-east Corner next the common a heape of rocks nere to a black or a yealow oack at the south westerly corner amapel tree in ye pine swamp at the norwest corner nere the hill called bare hill—also we haue layd out eleauen akers whare the house stands: haue measured from the yard westward next the highway fourty four rod haue marked a young croched white oack and forty pole to wards the north: haue set a stake and a heape of rocks a bout it: haue come forty four rods eastwardly astake for the mark nere a grat rock at the norest corner: and forty rods southwardly to a post by the yard whare we began dat ye 26 of march 1686.

frances Peabody
John Ridington
Isack Easty senr
John Houey senr

Wee whos names are under wrighten being Chosen by the Toune of Topsfield to exsammon the bounds of such men as haue lands Aioyning to the Common acording to our power we haue exsammoned the bounds of John Prichets land and not being fully sattisfyed about his bounds he Claimed; we came to an A greement with him: as we had

power to doe and we haue fully agreed with John Prichet as foloweth: that is that the fence of John prichets as it now stands on the northerly side of his land: and a Joyneing to our Common shall be his bounds for euer: to remaine as a setteled bounds betwene John Prichets land and ye Common: to him and his heirs and a signes for euer: the fence now begining at the ende of the pond and so runing from thence to a meadow of mr Bakers so far as Topsfield Common runs: always provided mr Baker shall haue lebority to goe with his Cart upon the upland by the medow side with hay: with out molestation from John Prichet or his haires for euer: and further we doe agree that care may be taken that thare shall be no remoueall of the fence towards the Common: but that the bounds shall be renewed as the fence now stands: and in consideration of this agrement John Prechet hath giuen bill to pay five pounds ten shillings: and that this is our agreement: we haue a tested with our hands dat the 22 of aprill 1686.

witnes Thomas Baker

Ephraim Dorman Jacob Toune
Edna Hazen John How

Wee Lieut Thomas Baker Jacob Towne senr John How haue setteled a Line between Corpll Thomas Pearly and Topsfield Common we haueing power so to doe by order from the Towne of Topsfield and we haue agreed and settelled the bounds betwene Corpll Perly and Topsfield Common as foloweth that is that the bounds shall be and remaine betwene Topsfield Common and Corpll Perlys land as the said Perlys fence now standeth on that side of the sd

Perlys land next John Prichets land and our Common the Consederation is twenty four shillings halfe mony: dath 30 of aprill 1686.

witnes Thomas Baker
Ephraim Dorman Jacob Toune
Isack foster iunr John How

At a lawfull meeting of the free-men of Topsfield the 4 of may 1686.

Thomas Dorman is Chosen a Graniury man for Topsfield for this yeare. voted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 28 of June 1686.

The Toune did agree that a Com-mity should be Chosen to goe with Salem men to perambulate on the agreement Line betwene Salem and Topfield and to run the line out according to agreement If thay can agree about it. voted

and further the Toune haue chose Leiut Thomas Baker and Sargt Jacob Toune and Sargt John How and John Wilds and Isack Easty sener to be the commity to Joyne with Salem men to parambulate: and run out the line If thay can agree as a boue mentioned. voted

Corporall John Houey doth enter his contrary desent to the aboue mentioned acte: Lieut John Gould doth enter his contrary disent to the aboue mentioned acte.

Boston April 6th 1686

Reseiued of Elisha pirkins Constable of Topsfield the some of three pounds fiftene shilings in mony being the full of the mony Rate for Topsfield I say Reseued the day and yere as aboue.

P Samuell Nowill Treasurer
This is to sertyfy that Elisha Pirkins Constable of Topsfield haue paide by my order the full of the County

Rate for the yere 85: 3lb: 15s: June 10: 86 by me John Appleton then Treasurer for the County.

Reseued the 3 of June 1669 of Thomas Dorman constable of Topsfield the some of ninetene pounds thirtene shillings and six pence: being in full of the rate for the yeare past. I say reseued in full acording to my worrent, by uertue of the Genarall Courte order by me.

Richard Rusill Treasurer

Reseued the 6th of nouember 1669 of Thomas Dorman Cunstable of Topsfield for his County rate due in 68 in full three pounds one shiling and a leauen pence I say reseued by me.

Robart Paine Treasurer

thes four reseights above mentioned are true cappies taken and entered date 27 of september 86.

P Ephraim dorman Clark

Reseued of the Constable of Topsfield 26: 1: p in full of there Rate eight pounds fiftene s, and three pence I say reseued in full of there Tounes proportion to the Country rate-08-15-03 p me

Richard Russill Treasurer

this is a true Coppy of the treasurers reight taken and entered for Daniell Borman P Ephraim Dorman recorder for Topsfield. dat 28th: 7mo: 86.

At a lawfull meeting of the Selectmen of Topsfield the 16th of aprill 1686 in answer to an apointment from the selectmen of Salem to the Selectmen of Topsfield: to goe on the perambulation on the agreement line acording to a greement betwene the Toune of Salem and the Toune of Topsfield in answer to it we haue chosen Lieut John Gould and Corpll

John Houey and Isaac Eastye senr: this is a true Coppey of the Selectmens act in answer to Salem mens apointment as above mentioned: taken an entered by me.

Ephraim Dorman

Recorder for Topsfield

witnes Thomas Baker

At a lawfull Towne meeting 22 of october 1686.

thare being som gentell men of Salem villidg as desires to speake with our Toune: in order to it the Toune h ue agreed to here what thay haue to say and to see thare pouer but not to proseed with them in disscorse about theare intentions: but conseder of what thay said when thay be absent: and send the Touns mind to them. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 22 of october 1686.

the Toune haue unanimously manifested thare desiers that mr Capen would be plesed to prech lecters If he can with conueniency and as often as he pleseth. uoted

Two Rates mad for mr Cappen bareing dat the 28th of december 1686.

the mony Rate was fiftene pounds twelue shillings and seauen pence the other pay Rate was forty two pounds two shillings and nine pence thay being alowed on by the Justises weare committed to our constable Decn Isaac Comings to gather.

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 25th of Jenuary 1686 or 87.

the Toune haue alowed Cunstable Comings his bill of charge uiz four shillings for conueying morris out of the Toune and three shillings for forworneing two womin out of the Toune. uoted

and firther thay haue alowed Lieut Thomas Baker five shilings in siluer three for the Justises conformation of our Rates to our menister and granting a worrent to our Cunstable to gather them and two shilings for three days one for goeing Commis-iener to Salem & two days to the Justises aboue said. uoted

and firther the Toune conseder- ing the necessity of the two galleryes to be set up forth with yt ye select men haue agreed with Samu- ell Simons to set up and Samu- ell Simons desiered the Toune to pay him for them or giue him full power to sell them to whom he will: the Toune doe agree to giue the said Simons twenty or thirty shilings for the Gallires thay haueing three seats apece in them and the said Simons hath power to take the rest of his pay of them that doe sit in them a cording to former order: and If the said Simons doe not exsept of this then he may com & agree firther with ye Selectmen that the work may be dun. uoted

also the Toune haue giuen the Selectmen power to agree with the said Simons about the galleries as aboue said. uoted

and firther the Toune haue agreed that Corpl John Houey shall repaire the hinde sete of his gallery and the Toune haue left it to the Selectmen to agree with him about his cost and charge and to alow him on the Touns account. uoted

firther Captin John How is chosen to goe to boston to procure ye hon- ered gouerner bradstreets testimony in the behalfe of ye toune conserning our land on the south side of the reuer. uoted

and the Toune haue left it to the

Selectmen to alow Capt How his charg on the Touns account for goeing to boston as aboue said. uoted

Lieut John Gould doth enter his contrary desent to the two last uotes aboue mentioned.

At a lawfull Town meeting the 1 of march 168⁹ Left Dorman is chosen clark.

Capt John How and Isaac Easty senr and Sammuell Howlet Thomas Dorman and Ephraim dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere en- sewing. uoted

Thomas Pirkins is Chosen Consta- ble for this preasent yere ensewing. uoted

John prichet and William Toune are Chosen seruayers of hiways for this yere insewing. uoted

Thomas Toune and Timmothy pir- kins Junr are Chosen fence uewer for this preasen yer insewing. uoted

the Toune haue agred and ordered that no dam shall be made to stop the water as sumtimes runs out of the mill pond in to mr Timmothy pirkins his medow by his barne. uoted

and further at Samu- ell Houlets reques the Toune haue granted to change land with him that is If he will lay doune the land by his house to the Touns use as common thay will alow him so many akors and rods of ground by the land and medow as he the said Samu- ell bought of mr Hobart so to be laid out as not to be preiedishall to the highways. uoted

and the Toune haue Chose Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Thomas Dorman to lay out the land to samu- ell houlet in way of exchang according to the aboue men-

tioned order.

and the Toune haue granted to mr william pirkins three quarters of an aker of land on the norewest side of that swampy brook Joyneing to his own land prouided that thos men being Chose in the behalfe of the Toune and mr william pirkins doe agree about it.

Leut John Gould doth enter his contrary desent to the aboue mentioned act.

and the Toune haue chose Leutenant Thomas baker and Capt John How and Sargt Thomas dorman to agree with mr william perkins about the three quarters of an aker for the price and pay and the place whare it is to be laid out as aboue mentioned and to lay it out.

and the Toune haue agred to alow any as shall kill wolues in our Toune that is to Touns men ten shillings apeece for euery wolfe so killed.

at a Lawfull Toune meeting the 6t of aprill 1687.

the Toune haue agreed to Chuse a commity to seat people or order the seating of people in those seates as weare set up by a publick Toune Charge.

Leut frances peabody Leut John Gould and Leut Thomas Baker Ensigne Jacob Toune and Corporall John Houey are Chosen to seate people in the meeting house according to the aboue mentioned uote.

also the Toune haue agreed to send to our neighbors and frinds of Boxford to Chuse a commity to Joyne with our Commity for the seating of people in the meeting hous as aboue mentioned.

The Toune haue Chosen Corpll

John Houey and John Robbison to run the line betwene Thomas Touns Land on the south side of the Reuer and the Touns Common.

At a lawfull meting of the Selectmen of Topsfield ye 20 aprill 1687.

in answer to an apointment of the Gentellmen of Ipswich to perambulise on the agreement line betwene Ipswich and Topsfield: in answer to that we haue chose Lieut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and John Prichet.

Ephraim Dorman in the name of the reste of the selectmen of Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 26 sept 1687.

Capt John How is Chosen by the Toune to prefer thare petesy [on] to his Exelencey the Gouvernor and Counsell.

at a lawfull Toune meeting 30th of sept 1687 the Toune did agree that the answer as was mad by the Toun to the treasurers warrent as did include som scruples about it: that answer the Toune did agree should be remoued out of the book it being found to be efensiue to athority.

at a lawfull Toune meeting 31 day of may 1687.

in answer to the desire of som persons the Toune haue giuen Leborty for any persons to plant Tobacco on the common ground for this yere prouided thay intrude not on any highwa[y].

and the Toune haue agreed that the fore side of the rooffe of the meeting house shall be mended whare it is leaky.

The Toune haue confermed the former Toune act in the Choice of

the Commity for the seating the people in the meeting house as it is speasified in the fore mentioned vote.

uoted

Reseued of John Prichet forty shilings by order of the selectmen which was due to him from the Toune for being dabuty this forty shillings is parte of a best that I reseued at three pounds ninteene shillings: dat 18 June 168[7].

Thomas Baker

Mr Joseph Porters bounds settelled: a whight oack standing by the east side of apine swamp: and a red ock on the north side of the swamp nere dwounills: and aread oack or a black oack on the northeast side of the swamp nere wenham Causway.

Mr Beniamen Porters bounds a whight oack nere John Curtioussis and a blak stump nere Nickalls his brook which is said Nickalls his bounds and a whight oack: and a whight oack on the south side of the brook being bartholmues bounds and nickallsis: and a read oack being Andrews is bounds and a whight oack in the rang towards the whight oack in Curtioussis field.

a cording to the Tounes order Leiut Thomas baker Capt How and Sargt Thomas Dorman haue sould Mr William Pirkins about three quarters of an aker of that which was the Tounes Common being impowered by the Toune so to doe and it is bounded as foloweth it lying on the norewest of mr william pirkins his hous by the swampy broock nere Capt Hows the east corner is a stake by the brook standing by an elme tree and a whight oack on the nore west corner to wards mr Capens and a stake on the southwest corner nere

Capt Hows barne and with a straight line to a stake at the south east corner nere that bridg ouer the brook in the way to the said Pirkins his house: the said land was sould to the said Pirkins for thirty shilings ten of it in siluer twenty of it in corne.

dat the 8th of nouember 1687.

Thomas Baker

John How

Thomas Dorman

The bounds of the land that we whos names are under writen haue laid out to Sargt Sammuell Houlet by Toune order in way of exchang, the first bounds is a stake twelue pole from the fence towards muddy spring and from thence towards Mr Capens: to an other stake and stones: and from thence to an other stake and stones ner the corner of Mr Capens field: from thence to a whight oack tree marked nere the high way: and from thence to a black oack marked nere samuella Houlets pond next the high way Joyning to his fence.

dat the 8th nouember 1687.

Thomas Baker

Thomas Dorman

John How

Reseued of Ephraim Dorman upon the Selectmens a count as was due from the Toune for the defraying the Justis Charge when thay came to take an a count of the Touns estate: thirtene shilings and three pence in siluer I say reseued by me William Smith.

dat 23 december 1687

this is a true Coppye taken and entered P me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Leiut Thomas baker paid three shillings and six pence of that siluer aboue mentioned to the Selectmen:

and Mr William pirkins paid ten shillings of it to the Selectmen.

Reseiued of Mr William pirkins ten shillings in siluer for the land as he bought of the Toune in the yere 1687 we say reseiued by the Selectmen of Topsfield: which was parte of the pay for the said land:

Ephraim Dorman in the name of the rest of the Selectmen of Topsfield dat 23d decemr 1687.

this is a true Coppye of mr William pirkins his reseight taken and entered by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Boston 22d nouember: 1687 Reseiued of Thomas pirkins Constable of the Toune of Topsfield: eighteene pounds nine shillings and 1 penny in full for the Cuntry Rate of that Toune: Reseued for the use of John Vsher Esqr Treasurer P Mikell Perrey.

this is a true copy taken and entered by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

witnes: Elisha Perkins

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 17 of January-1687.

Leint John Gould Liut Thomas Baker Ens Jacob Toune are Chosen to goe and treet with Doctr John ffisk about that troble as lately did arise: by the said fisk his sewing of our Selectmen of Topsfield ye 12th of this instant January 1687 before Phillip Nelson Esqr one of his Maies-tes Justes of pece in the County of Essix whare by the said Justes gaue Judgment against the Selectmen for a rate made in the yere 84 by the said Selectmen to thiares or the Tounes grat damage to the ualew of three or four pounds in siluer or thare abouts the Toune takeing it in

Consideration to preuent firther charg at law haue giuen full power to the aboue named men to agree with the said fisk: or to prosed a cording to law as thay see good.

and we whose names are under written being Chose as aboue mentioned ded ingage: If we see cause to proseed in a corse of law with Doctr fisk we doe ingage to bare one quarter parte of what charge may arise.

Thomas Baker
John Gould
Jacob Towne

This is a true Coppie taken and entred P me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Witnes William Howlett
John Smith

At a lawfull meting of the Select me[n] the 15th fabruary 1687.

Capt John How is Chosen to prefer a petesyon to the County Courte next insewing in the behalf of our Toune to haue our grate bridg maintained by the County.

At a lawfull Toune metting the 3d of June 1689.

Leit Thomas baker was chosen the Tounes representiue to goe to the preasent Counsell for safty of the people and Conseruation of the peace. To act for the publick good and welfare and safty of This Colony prohibbiti[ng] any act or thing that may haue any tendency to the infringment of any of our Charter priuilidgis what so euer.

July 2 1689 at a lawfull yearly toune meeting for the Choice of Toune officers Ensigne dorman is chosen toune clarke.

Leit Baker and Leit gould and sergt John Houey mr Tobiih pirkins

and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere to order the prudentialls for the good of the Toune for this yere ensewing the alionation of land exsepted. noted

Mr Timmothy Pirkins is Chosen Cunstable for the yere insewing. noted

Ens Jacob Toune and Jacob Peabody is Chosen serueiers for this yere. noted

the Toune haue mannifested by note that the serueiers shall take the Care of all the bridgis in the Toune. noted

Corpll dannieil Ridington and Ephraim Wilds are Chosen fence uewers for this yere. noted

At a lawfull Toune meting the 21t of sept 1689, by uertue of a warrant from maior appleton for Jurymen to sarue at the next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich on the last tuesday of this instant september, Capt John How is Chosen to sarue on the Jury of trialls. noted

and John prichet is Chosen grand Juryman. noted

at a lawfull Toune meeting the 30th of october 1689.

Sargt Isaac Easty senr is Chosen Commissioner to Joyne with the selectmen to take an account of the Tounes estat and to conuey it to mr John Phillips Treusurer. noted

Reseued of mr William Pirkins an account of seauentene shilings in worke which he did for the Toune I say reseued by us selectmen of Topsfield dat ye 20th march 1688.

Samuell Houlet in the name of the rest of ye selectmen of Topsfield.

This is a true copy taken and entered P Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Creadit

an aCount of what is due to the Toune from Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ens Jacob Toune for what thay recouered of men by setelling of thare bounds by agreement or other ways in the behalf of the Toune as thay weare impowered.

due to the Toune for what thay reseued of Corpll Thomas perly twelue shillings half mony. due to the Toune for what thay reseued of John prichet two pound fiteene shillings.

Leiut baker reseued the whole.

due to the Toune for what they reseued of mr Timmothy pirkins, one pound fiae shillings and six pence, ten shilling and six pence siluer.

due to the Tou[n]e for what Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt How and Ens Jacob Toune reseued of the parters which is due to the Toune in siluer for thar confirming the bounds of thar lands. 10-00-00

10: fabru: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. rec with with all as are here conserved and all accounts clerd with all exsept Ens Jacob Toune.

15: fabru: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Rec with Ens Jacob Toune and due to the Toune in siluer one pound four shillings and eight pence. 01-04-08

and in pay fiae shillings 00-05-00

15: fabru: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. upon arecconing betwene Ens Jacob Toune and Leiut Baker the said Leiut baker ownes himselfe indebted to the Toune in pay eightene pence. 00-01-06

and in siluer three shillings 00-03-00

22 March 9 $\frac{1}{4}$. Rec with ye Leiut Baker upon ye account of his goeing Representitiue from ye beging of ye world to this day and ye said Baker

set of twenty shilings of what he owed ye Towne for what he and Capt How and Ens Towne reseued of Joseph putman for confirming his grants of land and yit there remaines due to him one pound two shiling and six pence. 01-02-06

and Leiut Baker ows ye Towne yit upon ye confirmasion of said putmans land for what he reseued of said putman in pay as siluer one pound ten shilings. 01-10-00

and ye aboue said How and Towne doth yit owe there proportion to ye Towne upon ye aboue said account.

Rec ye 14th of october 1695 with Leiut Baker and all accounts clerd upon all accounts betwene ye Towne and mr Baker exsept the charge at nubary Court ye last september: and thare remaines due to ye Towne one pound ten shilings as siluer upon ye account of what he reseued for mr Joseph putman.

The Touns debts paid as foloweth. paid to Leiut Thomas baker for haueing the rates confermed by the Justisis four shillings two in mony and two in pay. 00-04-00

paid to Leiuetenent Thomas Baker for goeing deabutye in pay 02-00-00 paid to Leiut Thomas Baker by Capt How on the Tounes account for haueing the aboue mentioned rates confermed by the Justisis in mony. 00-02-00

paid to Corpll smith by the hand of the selectmen to pay the Justisis expence by Leiut Thomas Baker in siluer. 00-03-06

paid to Lieut Thomas Baker and Capt How and John prichet for perambuliting with Ipswich men on the a gremen line nine shilling in pay and leiut Thomas baker doth in iage

to pay John pricet thre shillings it was for the loss of two days apece.

00 09-00

payd to Capt How ten shillings seauen in siluer and three in pay for goeing to boston to procure the honored Gouverner Brodstrets Testimony two shillings of this siluer was payd to said How by Ens Jacob Touné.

00-08-00

00-02-00

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$ paid to the Selectmen and thare orders in the behalfe of the Touné by Capt How two pound fourtene shillings and eight pence in siluer. 02-14-08

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Rec in the behalfe of the Touné with Capt How upon mony account and all accounts Clerd from the begining of the world to this day fifteen shillings of the aboue mentioned siluer as the selectmen reseued of Capt How seauen shillings of it was paid Leiut gould. 00-07-00 and fiae pence (shillings) to Corpll smith and three to sargt Thomas Dorman to pay Cort Charg about widdow fisk. 00-10-06

Leiut baker paid Corpll smith two and six pence as it is figered of the aboue mentioned.

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Leiut Thomas Baker payd ninetene s and two pence of Cort Charg a bout widdow fisk in siluer. 00-19-02

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Leiut Thomas Baker paid to the Selectmen in siluer two pound seauen shilling and six pence.

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Rec with Leiut Thomas Baker in the behalfe of the Touné and all accounts clerd upon mony account from the begining of the world to this day.

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. paid to leuetent: Thomas baker and sargt Thomas

dorman and Capt John How for laying out sargt samuell Houlets land and mr William pirkins his land eightene pence a pece. 00-04-06

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Rec with Capt How in the Tounes be half on pay account and due in pay to him. 00-04-06

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$ Recconed with Leint Thomas baker in the Touns behalf and all accounts clerd and due to the Toune in pay nine shillings 00-09-00 and he paid it as foloweth.

to mr Tobiiiah pirkins for going to salem in pay. 00-03-00

10: fab: 8 $\frac{7}{8}$. Leint Baker was ordered to pay mr Tobiiiah pirkins 3s and sargt Thomas dorman eightene pence and Capt How four and six pence and Ephraim dorman two shillings for goeing to bradford. 00-02-00 and all accounts clerd with all aboue mentioned exsept Ens Jacob Toune and mr william pirkins, and we find Ens Jacob Toune paid in Cort charg and siluer. 02-02-00

Capt How was allowed for Cort charg and for prefering the Tounes petesion to the gouerner in siluer and pay and he was payed. 00-14-06

Leint Thomas baker Constable was allowed by the selectmen in the yere 89 three shilling in siluer as the rates fell shorte. 00-03-00

5th Janu: 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. Leint Baker paid to Ephraim Dorman thirty shillings siluer. 01-10-00

it was dun by order of ye Towne treasurer 24 shiling was of what ye Towne owed to capt How and he owed it to Ephraim Dorman and ye other six shillings was owing to Ephraim Dorman in a towne rate all which was ordered by ye Towne treasurer and Capt How.

Reseiued of Thomas Pirkins Con-

stable of Topsfield in graine and transportation and fue pounds paid ye selectmen of Topsfield which weare allowed them by seations of the peace ye 14th of march 1688 I say in the whole nine pounds foure shills six pence happenny and is the Toune of Topsfields proportion to the County rate for essix. I say reseiued by me John Higgison treasurer for Essix.

Salem date 17th aprill 1688.

this is a true Coppy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Boston may the 13th 1686 Reseiued of Elisha pirkins Constable of Topsfield the som of three pounds and fiftene shillings in mony which with seauen pounds rate pay: payd to Capt Clap by order or mony to his satisfaction and other discounts for troppers etc: is in full for all rates due to the Cuntry from that Toune for the yere 1685 I say reseiued in full by Samuell Nowell Treasurer.

this is a true Coppy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

21 of may 1688 at a lawfull Toune meeting by order of the gouerner and Counsell Leint Thomas Baker is Chosen Constable for this yere till an other be sworne in the roome.

uoted

sargent Easty and sargent Thomas Dorman and Sargent samuell Houlet and William Auerill senr and Mr William pirkins and Corpll Daniell Ridington are Chosen select men for this yere.

uoted

and Mr Tobiiiah pirkins is Chosen Commisyoner for this yere. uoted

Boston 27 Nouember 1688 Reseiued

of mr John Harris on a count of Thomas Baker Constable of the Toune of Topsfield ninetene pounds four shilings and three pence in full for the Cuntry rate of that Toune for John Vsher esqr. Treasurer P Mickell Perry. £19-4-3

This is a true copy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 14 of gennuary 1689: 90.

Capt John How and father John Wilds are chosen and impowered to gather up all the a reares of mens proportions to mr Capens saliry exsepting those as weare Committed to Corll William smith and if any man refuse to pay we giue them full power to prosicute such delinckyents a cording to law at Courte and from Courte to Courte till they recouer them exsept the Toune sees Just cause to the Contrary. voted

Whereas there was a Toune rate made and deliuered to Lieut Thomas Baker when he was Constable in sir Edmon Andreus his time: and his power as Constable ceased before he had gathered up the Rate and the said Baker desired power from the Toune to finnish his work in gathering up the rate: The Tou[n]e doth thare fore giue the said Baker pour to goe on with his worke as the law doth direct him. voted

ye Toune haue agreed that our yearely Toune meeting shall be on the first tuesday in march as formerly. voted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 7 may 1689 the Toune hath manifested by vote that thay are willing to Chuse a man a cording to order from the Honored Counsell. (the above

vote was blotted out with ink and in the margin the following words written) thes three lines weare mended by uote.

At a lawfull meeting of the free men and free houlders and souldiers of Topsfield the 7 may 89 thay haue by uote vnanimosly declared that thay are wiling to Chuse a man to goe to boston to Joyne aduise and Consult with the Counsell of safty about reasumeing the former gouernment and act according to Charter preuelidgis the gouernment set up by the Choyce of the free men in 86.

voted
Lieut Thomas Baker is Chosen as a boue mentioned. voted

At a lawfull Toune meeting ye 14th of gennuary 1689 or 90 upon information of some discontent among some of our neighbours and frinds of Boxford about seates in the meeting house. The Toune haue agreed to chuse a commity to treete with Boxford or a commity in thare Touns behalfe: to understand thare agreuences: and also we giue our Commity full power to seate people of our Toune and of thare Toune to content a cording to agreement as nere as may be that peace and loue may be continuued betwene the Touns. voted

Lieut John Gould and Lieut Thomas Baker and Ens Jacob Toune and sargt Isaac Easty and sargt John Houey are Chosen a Commity as aboue speasified. voted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 4th of feabruary 1689-90.

the Toune haue agreed to Chuse a man to Joyne with the Constable to gather the rates as is due to the Toune from Edward Nearland. voted

Leiuert Thomas Baker is Chosen to Joyne with the Constable as aboue speasified. uoted

At a generall Towne meeting hild ye 4 of march 1689 or 90.

Ensigne Ephram Dorman is Chosen Towne Clarke for ye yeare insueing.

Ens Jacob Toune is Chosen Constable for this yere. uoted

Corpll Danniell Ridington and Thomas Pirkins sargt Thomas Dorman and sargt sammuell Houlet and Corpll samuell standly are Chosen Select men for this yere. uoted

Leiuert Thomas Daker [Baker] is Chosen to serue on the Jury of triall at the next Court houlden at Ipswich. uoted

sargt John Houey is Chosen grand Jury man for this yere ensewing. uoted

Isaac Eastye iunr and Timmothy Pirkins iunr and Isaac peabody are Chosen seruaiers of high ways for this yere. uoted

Elisha pirkins and William Toune are Chosen fence newers for this yere ensewing. uoted

Leiuert Thomas Baker Ephraim Dorman and sargt Houey and Leiuert John Gould are Chosen a commity to renew the line formerly setteled with Rowly and now to reuiue it with Boxford it being the bounds betwene Topsfield and Boxford. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 4 march 1689 or 90.

Daniell Borman and sargt John Houey and William Auerill senr and Isaac peabody are Chosen a commity to treet with Ens Jacob Toune and Leiuert Thomas Baker and Capt John How about what thay haue dun a bout lands and what they haue procured for the Toune a cording to

toune order and make returne to the the Toune. uoted

Corpll John Curtious and Joseph Toune iunr are Chosen to lay out a way from the Toune Bridge ouer the reuer through the woods to the farmes at blind hole namely the Nickallsis and thare neighbors. uoted

The Toune hath manifested by uote that the rates or proportions that was proportioned by the selectmen (in sir Edmon Andrews his time of gouernment) here for mr Capen for his worke in the minnistry and is not paide to mr Capen the Toune doe giue power to the selectmen to make rates for mr Capen for that time Crosing all that hath all ready paid thare proportions to mr Capen. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 2 day of aprill 1690.

John Toune is Chosen Constable for the yere insewing. uoted

Leiuert Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen Collectors to gather up all the areres of what is due to mr Capen exsepting only those rates as weare Committed to mr Timmothy pirkins that is the areres of mens proportions as thay weare proportioned to the fullfilling the the Touns ingagment to mr Capens yearly saliry. uoted

To preuent damage by rams the selectmen haue ordered that who soe euer finds any rams upon the Common or on ground without fence from the eight-tenth day of august to the first of nouember any man of our Toune shall haue power and leberty to take such rams as a boue said exsept thay be sofesiently peched: and cry them and if no owrner apers in twelue days thay are to prise the ram and alow the Toune

the one halfe of the uallew of the said ram and dliuer it to the selectmen for the Touns use in good marchantable pay and then the ram to be his owne: but if the owner apers the owner to haue what was to be alowed to the Tounne and the ram to remaine the finders: and this order to stand in force in Topsfield for this yere 12 august 1690. Thomas dorman in the name and with the consent of the rest of the selectmen of Topsfield.

At a lawfull Tounne meeting the fifth of septem 1690.

Capt John How is Chosen Comissioner to Joyne with the selectmen to take an account of the Tounes estat as the law directs. noted

Mr Zarobabell Endicut is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls at next County Courte houlden at Ipswich after the date hereof dat: 5th sept 1690. noted

at a lawfull meeting of the freemen of Topsfield on the 3d day of nouember 1690 Leuit John Gould was Chosen deabuty to atend this preusent seations at the Gennarall Courte at boston. noted by papers this meeting was wornd by the selectmen.

Charls Tounne ye 20th fabruary 1689-90.

Then Recd of mr Timmothy pirkins Cunstable of Topsfield twenty three pounds nine shilings and two pence in full of the two mony Rates and halfe of said Tounne P John phillips treasurer.

this is a true Coppy taken and entred by mee

Ephraim Dorman Clark
witness samuel Howlett Elisha perkins.

Charles Towne ye 7th may 1690.

Then Recd of mr Timmothy pirkins Constable of Topsfield thirty one pounds as mony and is in full of the fiiue Rates of said Towne that was to be paide in graine P John Phillips Treasser.

This is a true Coppy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

witness John Towne
Elisha perkins

At a lawfull Tounne meeting the 3d of december 1690.

Daniell Ridington is Chosen Clarke of the writs. noted

the Tounne haue manifested by uote that thay will pay Leuit Thomas Baker for goeing representative eight weekes according to Tounne order. noted

Topsfield Aprill: 11th: 82 reckened with and reseued of Sammuell Houlet Cunstable for Topsfield on 1678: the full som of 60lb for my rate for ye yere 78 I say reseued P me Jareemiah Hobart.

this is a true Coppy taken and entred P me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

witness Daniell Redington
Ephraim dorman iunr

At a lawfull meeting of the freemen of Topsfield the 8th of december 1690.

Leuit John Gould is Chosen deabuty for this preasent seations.

at A Lawfull Towne Meeting ye 3 March 1690 or 91.

Ensigne Dorman was Chosen Recorder for ye yeare insueing. Voted

Capt John How and mr Tobiiiah Pirkins and Phillip Knight and Jacob Tounne iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere to

order the prudensiall affaires of our Toune the alionation of land ex-septed. noted

Danniell Clarke is Chosen Constable for this yere ensewing. noted

Ephraim Wilds and John Eastye are chosen seruayers for highways for this yere ensewing. noted

Mr Capen requesting a peece of land of the Toune the Toune noted that a commity should be chosen to uew the said land and make reporte to the Toune whether the towne can conueniently parte with land to mr capen or not. noted

Leuit Baker and sargt Houey are Chosen a commity to uew the land a boue said: noted

Corpll Daniell Ridington is Chose to serue on the Jury of trialls at the next County Courte to be houlden at Ipswich. noted

sargt Houey and Isaac Peabody and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen a commity to diuid the land recouered of som of salem farmes by Leuit Baker and Capt How and Ens Jacob Toune the commity are to deuide with said Baker How and Toune in the Tounes behalfe and make return of what land befalls to our Toune. noted

at a lawfull meeting of ye selectmen of Topsfield the 24th march 1690: or 91.

in answer to an apointment of the selectmen of salem to goe on perambulation on the line betwene salem and Topsfield the 30 day of this instant march: 90: 91 we haue Chosen Capt John How and Ensigne Toune and Phillip Knight and William Toune to goe as a boue said. noted

In Answer to a desire of the gen-

tellmen who are the Selectmen of Ipswich to meet with som of our Toune at Leuit Thomas Perlys on the 28th if faire if not the 27th of this instant march: 1690: or 91: as we think to goe on perambulation on the line setteled from the said Perlies to Ipswich riueer and whare as they desire som settelment further we know the water by the reuer is so high it cannot be dun thare fore for perambulation on the line setteled we haue shosen Capt How: and Leuit Thomas Baker Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and ephraim dorman as aboue said. noted

The 25th maren 90: or 91: Leuit Baker Capt How and mr Tobiiiah Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman did goe on perambulation with Ipswich men and straitened the line from the pond to mr simons his farm with markes as feloweth: a whight oake at the east end of mr Bakers Pond: and from thence to a walnut tree marked with a T on the south side: and an I on the north side: next a little whight oake marked with a T on the south side and an : I: on the north side: next a whight oake marked with a T on the south side and : an: I: on the north side: next a walnut tree marked with a T on the south side and an I on the north side: nextly two oakes standing together a read oake and a blake oake and the read oake marked with a T on the south side and an : I: on the north side: nextly a little read oake marked with a T on the south side and an I on the north side: and so on to the dore post of Jacob foster iuner his house: and so on to a whight oake in the said fosters feild: and so on to mr Simons his farme.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 30th of march 1691.

whare as thare is a case comminced and to be tried at this next Court at Ipswich betwene ye Towne and Edward Neland Leuit Thomas Baker and mr Timmothy Pirkins being in the behalfe of the Towne: and if we loose the case now we doe agree they shall proseed from Court to Court till they doe recouer the case though it com to ye Gennarall Courte and the Towne will bare them out in all lawfull suites uoted

We whose names are under written being apointed to renew the line formerly settled with Rowly and now to reuiue it with Boxford: accordingly we apointed a time and gaue them notis and Boxford men accordingly meet with us at Leuit Thomas pearlyes on the 22 day of aprill 1691 but thay refused to goe on perambulation with us as we profered them by order from our Towne of Topsfield.

dat 22 of aprill 1691.

Thomas Baker

John Houey

Ephraim Dorman

At a Court held at Ipswich march 31st 1691. Daniel Ridington being Chosen Clark of ye wrts for ye Towne of Topsfield is allowed by ye Court and confirmed in his office. Copia vera as in Ipswich Court Book of Reacords as atteste Thomas Wade Cler[k].

This is a true Coppy taken and entred p me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

at a lawfull Towne meeting the 22 of may 1691 Sargt Isaac Easty senr. is chosen grand Juryman for This yeare. uoted

it is ordered that Leuit Gould and

Capt How be Chosen to and fully impowered to gather up all that is behinde of Mr Capens rates or what is his due for the despensing of the word of god in Topsfield according to Towne agreement with Mr Capen for two yeares in sir Edman Andreus his time of gouerment selectmen being forbidden in that time to make rates for minnisters whareby selectmen then didnot sine them as rates but only as mens preportions of thare due to the minnisters which was dun by the selectmen according to Towne agrement as will apere by Topsfield Towne Book of records: uoted

Ens Jacob Towne doth enter his contrary desent to this uote.

It is ordered that the selectmen be impower to Chuse a commity to settle a line betwene any of our frinds that hath land in boxford Joyneing or bordering upon our Common as hath bene formerly dun, and to git what testimonys thare is to be had to proue the former settlement of a line with Rowly and Topsfield. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of the selectmen of Topsfield ye 29 of may 1691. by order from ye Towne we haue Chosen Leiuert John Gould and Leuit Thomas Baker Capt John How and Ens Jacob Towne and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman to git what testimony thare is to be had to proue the former settlement of a line betwene Rowly and Topsfield and also to renew and establish the bounds formerly settled betwene Topsfield Common and Robbart Smiths land: and the Commity aboue named exsepting Lieut Thomas Baker are impowered to renew and establish the bounds formerly set-

tleed betwene Topsfield Common and the said Leiut Bakers land as he bought of Dockr Crosbey and the maior part of the Community agreeing in any act befor mentioned shall be counted ualued.

Jacob Towne iunr in the name and by the order of the selectmen of Topsfield.

At a lawfull towne meeting the 25th of august 1691, Leiut Thomas Baker was Chosen Commitioner to Joyne with the selectmen to take an account of the Towne estat as the law direct. uoted

at a lawfull towne meeting the 21 Sept 1691. Corpll John french is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls at the next seations at Ipswich. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 22 of december 1691. Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen atturnies in the Towne behelf to defend and asist the Constables John Towne and Daniell Clarke being both consernd in troble relating to Edward Nearlande contending with the Towne as to Towneship and on refuseing paying of his rates due to our Towne. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 22 of dec 1691. Capt John How and Corll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen Collecters to gather up the areares of mr Capens rates or mens proportions due to mr Capens salliry as was proportioned in sir Edmon Andreues his time as weare not committed to Constables to gather and see them paid to mr Capen and the Towne will bare them out in all thare leagall preseedng in the gathering of them till thay are gathered. uoted

The yearely meeting.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the i day march 1691-92 it bein theiare Genirall Towne meeting Ensigne Dorman was Chosen Clerke for ye yeare insueing.

Leiut Thomas Baker sargt Honey Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins Corpll Ridington Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen to order the prudentiall afaires of our Towne for this yeare ensewing the allionnation of land only exsepted. uoted

Ephraim Wilds is Chosen Constable for the yeare ensewing. uoted

Corpll french and John Robison senr and Joseph Towne iunr the widows son and Isaac Easty iunr are Chosen serueyers of highways for the yeare ensewing. uoted.

also Corpll Standly is Chosen serueyer for the yeare ensewing uoted

Capt How and John Anerill is Chosen fence uewers for the yeare ensewing. uoted

at the request of Capt How to the Towne to setell his bounds of his land acording to his deed and that for the conuenyancey of the seting of his fence he desires som rods of land may be changed in answer to his desire the Towne haue Chosen Leiut gould and Isaac Peabody to settel his bounds and to chang a few rods of land prouided the said How lays doune as good and as conuenient euery ways with quantyty and quality. uoted

and at the request of Corpll french to ye Towne for the exchang of a small peece of land only for the straightiening of his fence in answer thare unto the Towne haue chosen Sargt Houlet and old father wilds to change as aboue said prouided the

said french lays doune that which is as conuenient and for quantyty and quality. uoted.

in answer to sargt Houeys desire for the renewing and settelling his bounds Joyneing to the Common in answer thare unto ye Towne haue Chosen Capt How and sargt Thomas Dorman and Isaac Peabody to renew and setell bound with sargt Houey according to his grant orderd Joyneing to the common. uoted.

Isaac Peabody is Chosen to sarue on the Jury of trialls at the next Courte houlden at Ipswich. uoted.

at the desire of william smith in the behalfe of his mother and his brother Joseph The Towne doth a quit and discharge them of the parsenag a quitting them from all ingagements in the leace and takes it in to thare poseation as it is now in being only the widdow smith hath the libborty of the hous and orchard till mickelmas nex for sweeping the meeting house if she seese cause to stay so long but in case the Towne sees cause to improue one end of the house then the said widdow is to haue the leborty of but one end of the hous as aboue said. uoted.

At the request of mr Capen ye 7 march 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ye selectmen renewed mr Capens bounds of land: a stake westward nere Capt Hows: from thence to a blacke oake northwardly: from thence to another oak about the middle of the line and from thence to an elme eastwardly from thence to an ash nere mr Pirkins his land: and from thence to the stake aboue said.

Thomas Baker
Ephraim Dorman
Tobiiah Pirkins

Daniell Ridington
Selectmen.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 14th march 1691 or 2 it was propounded to the Towne whether the Towne would Chuse men to meet with Ipswich men at thare desire about a line as thay spake of from ye mouth of william Houlets Brooke to the southermost parte of Mr Bakers pond ye Towne Consedering that it was other wise settled and that the Towne haue gon on perambulation twice and no longer than the last yeare [and also that your select mens owne grants of Topsfield Towne shlip saith nothing of the mouth of william Houlets brook neither of the southermost parte of the pond, *the foregoing is crossed out in the original,*] tharefor the ye Towne uoted the neggitue that thay will not send men. uoted.

Corpll Johu French is Chosen Commitioner to cary ye nominations to the sheare Towne: by the free-men. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-men ye 16th of may 1692.

Leint Thomas Baker is Chosen Deabuty for ye next seations of ye Gennarall Court to be houlden at Boston.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 26th iuly 1692.

The Towne haue Chosen sargt Thomas Dorman a Commitioner to Joyne with ye selectmen to take an account of the Towns estate personall and reall and proseed as ye genarall Courtes act directs. uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 20th sept 1692.

Capt John Gould was Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls at ye next

County Court to be houlden at Ipswich. voted.

the Towne haue Chosen Corpll John French to sarue on the grand Jury at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich. voted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 14th of december 1692.

the Towne did agree to alow John Toune Constable in a Towne rate what the selectinen do Judg conueniant for what Josiah wood and mr Zarobabell Endicut was rated in the twenty rates as was Committed to him to gather it being doubtfull whether it is recouerable or not.

voted.

and firther the Towne did manifes that the selectmen should order pay to the men that bult the pound a cording to bargaen, in a Towne rate. voted.

We whose names are under writen being apointed by the Towne of Topsfield at a genarall Towne meeting the first day of march 1691-92 to setell bounds betwene Capt John How and the Towne Common: haue done it as foloweth: niz: first we did run about fiue rod from goodman Clarks corner bounds to a stake at the east corner: and from that stake upon a straight line ranging with an elme up to a forked whight oake tree on the northerly corner of that land: and from that white oake tree upon a straight line to the fence as it now stands and then as the fence runs downe to a stake and heape of stones which is a bounds betwene sd Capt How and daniell Clarke by the old carte way as witnes our hands this 4 day march 1691-92.

John Gould senr
Isaac Peabody

Copya uarya atest Ephraim Dorman Clark.

At a lawfull Towne meeting by order of athority on the 30th of december 1692, Ens Jacob Toune is Chosen to serue on the grand Jury at Salem and John Prichet and Corpll John Curtious are Chosen to serue on the Jury of tryalls at the Courte of assises to be houlden at Salem ye 3d day of Jeauary 1692 or 93.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfeild the 7: day march 1692.

Ensigne Ephrom Dorman was chosen Towne Clarke for ye yeare insueing.

mr William Pirkins is Chosen Constable for the yeare ensueing. voted.

Capt John Gould sargt Thomas Dorman and sargt Samuel Houlet Ens Jacob Towne and Corpll John Gould are Chosen selectmen for the yeare ensueing. voted.

Corpll Tobiah Pirkins is Chosen Commisioner for asesment for this yeare. voted.

Corpll John French is Chosen Graniury man for this yeare. voted.

mr Timmothy Pirkins is Chosen to serue on the Jury of tryalls for the next Court to be houlden at Ipswich. voted.

Sargt Eastye and Thomas Pirkins are Chosen tithing men for this yeare. voted.

Jacob Toune iunr and Beniamen Bigsbee and John Auerill are chosen serueyars for hye ways for this yeare. voted.

Corpll Daniell Ridington and Elisha Pirkins are Chosen fence uewers for this yeare. voted.

Sargt John Houey and Daniell

Ridington are Chosen to uew the old highway from John willds his hous to mile brook and state it as it may answer the end acording as it was at first laid out and firthr to lay it out from Samuell Houlllets to William Houlets. uoted.

Sargt John Houey and Corpll Daniell Ridington are Chosen to lay out seauen akers of upland to Ephraim Dorman as was formerly granted to his father Dorman on the southwest of pye brook as it doth apere by Ipswich Reckords. uoted.

Sargt Houey and Corpll Daniell Ridington are Chosen to lay out a high way for John Androus from his upland on the north of Ephraim Dormans land ouer the Brook to the upland on the west. uoted.

Sargt Samuell Houlet and Isaac Peabody are Chosen to straigten mr Timothy Pirkins his line on the southwest side of his land by the meeting house which is betwene his land and the parsonage land and to leue out as much land as thay take in to the said Pirkins. uoted.

the 11th march 1692³ mr William Pirkins was sworne Cunstable and Sargt Isaac Easty was sworne tithing man and Ephraim Dorman was sworne Towne Clarke by Capt Thomas Wade Justis of the peace and here entered by his order.

In answer to an apointment by the Selectmen of Ipswich to ye Selectmen of Topsfield to Chuse men to meete ye gentlemen apointed by them to renew the bounds betwene Ipswich and Topsfield as we did apprehend might be thare meening: accordingly ye Selectmen apointed Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ephraim Dorman and

acordingly we here named on ye 20th day of fabruary 1692 or 3 meet with ye gentlemen of Ipswich at ye house of Jacob Fosters and we agreed and renewed ye bounds from mr Bakers pond so caled to mr Simonds his farme so called: and then we aboue named demanded of ye Gentlemen of Ipswich to renew the bounds round ye northeast end of mr Simonds his farme so caled to the brook whare it runs out of ye farme acording to agreement: but thay refused but presumed to run the line cross the said farme: though we forewarned them and protested against thare so doeing: so we aboue named went and uewed and renewed the antient bounds about the northeast end of ye said farme to ye brook as aboue said whare we meet with the Gentlemen of Ipswich as went cross the farme: and then we uewed the brook from the farme to the riuer which was confirmed to be the bounds betwene said towns by the Commities of both Townes when thay settleed the line that is the brook from the farme to the reuer.

as witnes our hands.

Thomas Baker

John How

Ephraim Dorman

we whose names are under written being apointed by the Towne to lay out a high way for John andrew for his use and bennifit: acordingly we haue dun it: from the west corner of John Andrew his upland called the Plump ouer the Brook in the old way and so through the meadow which Sargent John Houey Senr Claimes to be his and so to the nereist place of upland to wards the northwest:

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

John Houey, Sear
Daniell Ridington
varya Copia atest Ephraim Dorman
Clark.

Sargt John Houey and Daniell Ridington being apointed to lay out a high way from Sargt Samuell Houlets by John Wilds his house so to William Houlets brook accordingly thay haue dun it begining at the cuntry roode and along on the south side of Samuell Houlets land and betwene mr Capens land and the said houlets land and so on the south side of muddy spring: so along the old carte way to John Wilds his land: and so betwene Corpll French his house and barne: so along the old way to the north side of Daniell Ridingtons bounds by John Wilds his gate and so as the way now lyeth by ye said Wilds his house and so along the old way to mile Brook bridg and still along the old way to William Houlets brook: trees being marked in sartin places the most of the way this was taken from thare owne mouths.

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

atest Ephraim Dorman Town Clark.

we whose names are under written being apointed to lay out seauen akers of upland to Ephraim Dorman as was granted to Thomas Dorman now desesed as aperes by Ipswich reccords accordingly we haue dun it on the south west side of Pye brook and is bounded as foloweth begining at a stake with a heap of stones at it nere the said dormans house by his dam: and so bounded by the brook and low land or meadow all along up to John Andrews his meadow which is the northeast bounds: and then

along by John Andreus his meadow to a black oake tree marked with a heape of stones at it which is the north west bounds and so on a straight line from the said black oake to a stake with a hepe of stones at it nere the parsonage meadow being bounded on the common on the south west: and so on a straight line from the said stake to the stake by the said dam being bounded on the common on the southeast.

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

John Houey Sener
Daniell Ridington

Wee whos names are under written being Chosen by the Towne to straighten a line for mr Timmothy Pirkins: on the south side of ye meeting hous lot and accordingly we haue dun it: begining at the north west corner next Pine swamp from a stake with a heape of stones: runing southeast upon a straight line to a little whight oake marked with a heape of stones at the bottom: and from thence upon a straight line to a grate whight oake bending inward to mr Pirkins land and a heape of stones at the bottom: and from thence upon a straight line to a stake with a heape of stones at it: and so upon a straight line to the corner stake with a heape of stones at it the southeast corner.

dat ye 20 march 1692 or 3.

Samuell Houlet
Isaac Peabody

this is a true Coppy taken and entered by me Ephraim [Dorman] Recorder for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 1 of may 1693.

the Towne haue manifested that

they will stand by all thare Constables in all thare lawfull proseedings in gathering of rates of Edward Nearland as was committed to them to gather of him: ye Constables names are John Towne and Daniell Clarke and Ephraim Wilds and mr William Pirkins: unanimously voted.

Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen by the Towne to assist ye Constables in the Townes behalfe as aboue written by impleading Edward Nearland and defending the Townes Right. voted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 8 of may 1693 Sargt Thomas Dorman is Chosen Gran Jury man and Sargt John Houey and John Robison is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls all to serue at ye Grat Court of asize to be houlden at Ipswich ye 9 of this instant may. voted.

At the generell Court oct 1 1645 an order conserning Topsfeld for as much as this court has formerly granted that ther should be a uillidge upon Ipswich riuer at or nere a place called the new medowes and for as much as certaine of the Inhabitants of Ipswich who haue farmes emproued nere there unto and doe desire that a minester might be settled there to despenche the word to the present Inhabitants and to such others as shall place them selues at the said uillidge whome yet not withstanding they are noe wayes able in any comfortable maner to maintane a minester and to defray other nessasary charges of the place if with all they should be Liable to all other rates and publique Charges of the Towne of Ipswich this Court doth therefore herby order that either the whole Towne of Ipswich shall equily con-

tribute with such other Inhabitants as haue Lands In or nere the said uillidge to the maintinance of a minester and all other publique Charges Incident to such a uillidge or elce the fore said Inhabitants that haue Lands nere the said uillidge and shall contribute to the maintenance of a minester there and other nessasary charges shall be ffreed from all maner of rates charges or contributions to the Town of Ipswich for thir Land or stock In or belonging to the said uillidge A true Copie of the Records Ex. Isace Addington Secritary.

Copia uare examined P. P. Stephen Suell clark.

A True Copy taken and entered P. me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull Towne meting ye 24th of may 1693 the inhabitence of Topsfield did unanimously agree that who euer of them was chosen deabuty or representatiue for the Gennarall Court should haue but twelue shillings pir week continnewing the whole time of the seation or seations as thay are chosen for that is two shillings a day in siluer. voted.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free houlders and inhabitence of Topsfield ye 24 of may 1693 a Cording to worrent Capt John Gould was Chosen representatiue to serue at ye next Gennarall Courte to be houlden at Boston part of ye time. voted.

and Leiut Thomas Baker was Chosen representatiue as aboue said to serue the other parte of ye time taking turns one at a time as thay agree. voted.

Ensigne Dorman Capt John How and Corpl Tobigaah Perkins is Chos-

en to drae vp with or nebiors of Ipswich fairmes a petition or request as thay see Good to ye Generell Court for ye [Line to be setteled betwene Ipswich and Topsfield—*crossed out in the original.*] satellment of Topsfield with thos preuillidges granted by the Genarall Court. uoted.

Capt John How is Chosen to prefer the peteson to the honered Genarall Court as shall be drawn up and prefered to ye honered Genarall Court in the behalfe of Topsfield relating to Genarall Courte Grants of Topsfields preuillidgis relating to our Towneship and minnistry. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of ye freehoulders of Topsfield ye 11 of September 1693.

Capt John Gould is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at the next county Courte to be houlden at Newbury. uoted.

the Towne hath manifested by uote that goodwife Nearland should be Complained of for slandering the wholl Towne of Topsfield and that what the selectmen haue ordered to that end should be prosecuted to efect. uoted.

The Towne by uote doe declare that complaint be made at the Court against Capt Thomas Wade Justis of ye peace for discorridging of our Constables and threatening of them for the exsecution of thare office in gathering thare rates as aperes both by his warrents and atachments and ye selectmen are apointed to doe it them selues or Chuse men for that end. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of the freehoulders and ye inhabitence of Topsfield ye 19 of Sept 1693 Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen Deabuty to serue

at ye next Gennarall Court to be houlden at Boston. uoted.

and it was uoted that he should goe for twelue shillings per weeke.

uoted.

At a lawfull meting of ye freehoulders of Topsfield ye 24th october 1693 thay did manifest by uote that ye deabuty should sarue for two shilings a day at ye seations of ye Genarell assembly. uoted.

Leiut Thomas Baker was chosen Deabuty to serue at the next Genarell assembly to be houlden at Boston. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of the selectmen of Topsfield ye 28th march 1693.

Corpll Samuell Standly is Chosen to be a seler of waits and measures for our Towne till thare is another Chosen to that office entered by order of the selectmen. uoted.

Charles Towne 12th iune 1693.

then reseued of Mr Daniell Clarke Constable of Topsfield ye sume of two hundred and one pound one shiling and eight pence in full of said Townes proportion of ye twenty four Thousen Pound Rate.

I say Reseued by me John Phillips Treasurer.

This is a true copy taken and entered P me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark.

At a Genarall Towne meting the 6th of march 1693 or 4. Ensine Dorman is Chosen Clark for the yere in suing. uoted.

Corpll Tobiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody and Elisha Pirkins and Joseph Towne iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen Selectmen for ye yeare ensewing. uoted.

Isaac Easty iunr is Chosen Con-

stable for ye yeare ensewing. uoted.

Mr Timothy Pirkins senr is chosen a serueyer for highwayes for this yeare and Jacob Towne iunr and John Auerill are likewise chosen seruayers for ye yeare ensewing.

uoted.

Corpll John Curtious and Sargent Thomas Dorman and Sargent Daniell Ridington are Chosen fence uewers for ye yeare ensewing. uoted.

Sargt Houey and Daniell Clarke and Thomas Towne are Chosen pounders for ye yere ensewing.

uoted.

Sargt Samuell Houlet is Chosen to kepe the pound. uoted.

Corpll John Gould is Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

uoted.

Thomas Pirkins is Chosen Grand Jury man for this yere. uoted.

Corpll John Gould and Joseph Easty are Chosen to se that horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law. uoted.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and John Robison senr are Chosen tithingmen for this yere ensewing. uoted.

Lieut Baker and Capt John How and Ensigne Jacob Towne and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody are Chosen to run out ye line betwene Salem and Topsfield acording to agrement from ye rock caled Crumwills Rock and so on to settle ye bounds as hath not bine settled and what thay agree upon ye Towne will stand by. uoted.

Lieut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ens Jacob Towne are Chosen and Impowered to settle and run out ye line betwene Wenham and Topsfield and what thay

doe ye Towne will stand by. uoted.

upon ye request of Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins Capt Gould and Liut Baker are Chosen to renew ye bunds of ye lots on ye south sid of ye reuer next ye Cow Common betwene ye Cow Common and Mr Porters land.

uoted.

The Towne haue agreed that Goodman Louewell School Master shall liue in ye Parsonage house this yeare ensewing to kepe schole and swepe ye meeting house. uoted.

ye Towne haue agreed that upon the request of sauerall young men that thay shall haue libberty to set up seates upon ye beames of ye meeting house on thare owne cost and charg. uoted.

ye Towne haue agreed that If any of our Towne see cause to set up a galliry at ye east end of ye meeting hous for wimmin and maids at thare owne cost and charg and not to darken the windows thay may and haue liberty to build it. uoted.

the towne haue agreed that if any maids doe agree to raise the backe seat at ye east end of ye meeting hous and the backe seate at ye west end of ye meeting hous at thare owne cost and charg thay haue lebority. uoted.

ye Selectmen haueing a worrent for a county rate and thare being sum scruples about it: thay desires the Towns aduice whare upon the Towne doe aduise to sospend it for the preasent and thay will bare them harmeles. uoted.

Know all men by thes preasence and to whom it my conserne that whare as Ephraim Dorman of Topsfield and John Andrus of Boxford in ye County of Essix in Newingland

haue upland and meadow a Joyneing together within ye bounds of Topsfield ye upland upon ye Pine Plaine ye meadow lying in a meadow commonly called Theofilus Swachills meadow on both sides of Pye brook and by a mutuall agreement together for settlement of bounds betwene us to remaine to us and our heirs and assigns for euer: haue agreed as followeth: ye east diuisionall bounds betwene ye aboue said parties of ye upland is a heape of stones nere the path leading to Ipswich farmes a Joyneing to ye Common: and then runing westwardly on a straight line to a stump with a heape of stones lying to it nere ye meadow: and then ye line runing norwestward to a stake standing in ye meadow nere ye upland in ye corner of ye fence as it now standeth: and then from that stake southwestwardly on a straight line to another stake nere the upland which is Topsfield common: the said Andrusis land lying on ye north: and the said Dormans land lying on ye south all along: and also four akers of meadow which was sould formerly by Thomas Dorman desesed: and now in ye posesion of John Andreus lying in the southwardly corner of ye said theofilus swachills meadow so called: we ye aboue said Dorman and Andrus haue settled the bounds of it as followeth: to remaine for euer: which are as foloweth: begining at a stake next ye upland a Joyneing to Topsfield Common and then runing northeastwardly to a stake in ye meadow about seauen rods from a row of springs: and from that stake southeast twenty rods and a halfe to another stake standing in a row of

springs: and then as ye row of springs run to a stake standing at ye nereist corner of ye upland south-westwardly: and then bounded by ye upland to ye first stake spoken of in ye four akers of meadow and then ye said Dormans meadow a Joyneing to ye four akers aboue said on euery side till it comes to ye upland: dated ye seacond day of January one thousand six hundred ninety three foure: and in ye fift yeare of thare Maiasties Reigne: in confermation hereof we haue set to our hands and seales: signed sealed in ye preasents of us witnessis.

John How senr Ephraim Dorman
John Peabody senr John Andrus
John Honey senr

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

and entered with ye consent of ye Towne.

we concerned in conformasion to all aboue written haue set two our hands.

Ephraim Dorman senr
John Andrew

to the truth of all aboue righten I doe testify as witnes.

John How
John Pebody senr

Topsfield ye 17 march 169 $\frac{3}{4}$: we whose names are under subscribed being Chosen by ye Toune to measure ye breadth of Mr William Pirkins senr lot it being ten rods broad: and Daniell Clarks two lots twenty rods broad Decn Thomas Houlets lot twenty two rods broad: Isaac Comings senr one lot fuetene rods broad: bounded norwest on ye Cow Common northeaste on ye Reuer meadows south east upon ye land ondiuided as ye lotlayers left it and on ye

southwest by ye land of mr Joseph Porters.

John Gould senr
Thomas Baker

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 23 day of march 1693 or 4.

Corpll Samuell Standly is Chosen Gran Juryman for ye next seations at Ipswich on ye last tuesday of this instant. uoted.

John Prichit is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next Seations to be houlden at Ipswich on ye last tuesday of this instant march. uoted.

The Selectmen of Topsfield being desired to renew and state a horse way from ye roode as lyeth by old father Wilds his house to goe along by ye mill: accordingly we met on ye 26th day of march 1694: and agreed and renewed and stated ye old way from ye Rode aboue said with ye consent of old father Wilds and mr Timothy Pirkins: from thare diuisionall bounds by ye said rode allowing two rods in breadth ye one halfe on old father Wilds his land and ye other halfe on ye said Pirkins his land as thare line runeth towards the north west allowing ye same breadth on both sids ye line till it coms to an apple tree by ye line eight rods short of ye bound tree as is that tree as is ye bounds betwene Leiut Baker and mr Timothy Pirkins and Widdow Auerills lands: and then on a straight line northwardly through ye west corner of said Pirkins his land: and so through ye eastwardly corner of ye said Auerills feild a Joyneing; that ye east side of ye way whare it leues ye said

auerill improued land being two rods from ye said Pirkins his line whare a gat now standeth: and so as ye beaten path is along by the south side of ye mill to ye common houlding ye same breadth that carts may pass if need bee.

Tobiiiah Pirkins
Isaac Peabody
Ephraim Dorman
Selectmen of Topsfield.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 3 of Aprill 1694.

in answer to an apointment of ye Gentlemen of Salem to goe on perambulation betwene Salem and Topsfield we haue Chosen Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ens Jacob Towne and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody to mete ye Gentelemen of Salem at time and place to efect that worke according to thare apointment. Ephraim Dorman in ye name of ye rest of ye selectmen of Topsfield.

ye Selectmen haue agreed and Chosen Ephraim Dorman and Elisha Pirkins to renew bounds betwene the Common and mr Baker his farme in Boxford and also to stat a highway beyond Capt Goulds hous through his meadow.

this 12th of march 1693 or 4 we whos names are under writen being chosen by ye Towne to renew or settle bounds with sargt Houey, we went to his house and desired him to show us his Bounds next Topsfield Common: ye wich he could shew us none: but tould us that he must goe to ye west end of John Andrews his meadow: but could not shew us any bounds thare: and we finding a tree

marked with som stones at it nere ye brook on ye northside of ye brook : ye which is said to be ye corner bounds of lumkins farme : we haue renewed that bounds : and that he shall run from that tree northwest to a little tree by ye meadowside : and so to ye brook and then ye brook to be ye bounds till it come at mr Bakers meadow : this is all we haue dun only we worned Sargt Houey to make no improuement any firther nex ye common then to that bounds and so ye brook as aboue said.

John How

Thomas Dorman

Isaac Peabody

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 2 day of may 1694 in answer to an apointment under ye hand of Leuit Corlonall Thomas Wade Justis of ye peace for ye renewing of ye line betwene Ipswich and Topsfield in answer thare unto we haue apointed Leuit Peabody and Leuit Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Isaac Peabody to answer ye apointment at time and place and ye maior parte of our men agreeing shall stand.

Ephraim Dorman in ye name of ye rest of ye selectmen of Topsfield.

at a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 2 day of may 1694. Corpll Tobiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody weare chosen to state a high way from Thomas Perkins his house along by Sargt Daniell Ridgingtuns to ye Cuntry roade by old father wilds his house.

uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 11th of may 1694.

whare as the inhabitece of Salem

Villidg lays Claime to our land on ye south side of ye reuer and haue cominsed a suit against Corpll John Curtious on that a count : ye Towne haue agreed to stand by Corpll John Curtious in ye defence of his and ye Townes right.

uoted.

Leuit Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen to defend Corpll Curtious and the Towns Right on ye south sid of ye reuer against the Claims of ye inhabitece of Salem Villidg till ye cause be isshewed.

uoted.

The Towne did declare by uote not to send a deabuty to ye Gennarall Court next to be held at Boston—not knowing but thay might be excused by law Capt Gould and Ephraim Dorman desents as to that uote and also Daniell Borman.

ye Toune by uote doe declare that Sargt Houeys fence on ye south side of ye Brook called Pye Brook shall be pulled up from time to time untill sargt Houey can proue whare his bounds be next ye common.

uoted.

Ephraim Dorman with Leuit Baker is chosen to renew leuit Bakers Bounds next ye common by ye said dormans house.

uoted.

it was uoted that Sargt Houeys fence aboue said shall stand till ye middle of next June and If he can make out his title to ye satisfaction of ye Selectmen and ye commity consernd and if he cannot or doth not ye commity consernd haue pouer to pull doune his fence and ye Towne will stand by them.

uoted.

Elisha Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman being apointed to state a carte way through Capt Goulds meadow and ouer ye fishing brook so caled : thare being a way ordered from ye

meeting house to mr Endicuts farme: and ye way not being stated ouer ye said brook and through ye meadow aboue said we haue stated it as foloweth: we began on ye west side of ye said meadow and marked too young red oaks with heapes of stones at them being about a rod a parte: and we stated ye way to hould ye same breadth along ye old carte way baring half a rod from ye senter of ye old way to ye right and left till it coms about four rods of ye foot of ye horse bridg: and then to inlarge to ye left to include the horse way now in being to ye bridg and also to include ye bridg: and then we alow liberty from ye foot of ye horse bridg on ye east side of ye brook till it coms about one rod and a halfe from ye bridg and then it is stated one rod in breadth along ye old way as it is stated on ye other side: thare being a cherry tree marked with a heape of stones at it: and on ye left sid a stake and a heape of stones at it both on ye side of ye upland on ye east side of ye meadow.

Elisha pirkins

Ephraim Dorman

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-houlders and other inhabittence alowed by law ye 4th of iune 1694 Leint Baker was Chosen representative to sarue at this Gennarall Court now houlden at Boston.

Leint Baker being presant did declare himselfe onwilling to goe.

At a lawfull Towne meting ye 25 of iuly 1694.

Sargt Daniell Ridington and sargt John Houey and sargt Samuel Houlet are Chosen asesers acording to

ye Treasurers worrent for our Towne.

The said asesors sargt Houey and sargt Houlet and sargt Ridington were sworne to thare faithfull discharge of thare duty as the Court act directs by me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke ye 28th of iuly 1694.

we whose names are under written by order of ye Towne went to Sargt Houeys house and he not being at whome we red our order to his wife and sun Luke and then his son went with us: and we Puled up eight lengths of fence and declared we did it by order of ye Towne: and then before we weare gone came sargt Houey: and we shewed him what we had dun: ye fence wee puled up stood on ye Towne Common on that side of ye brook next long hill this we did on ye 13th of iuly 1694.

John How

Thomas Dorman

Isaac Pabody

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-houlders of Topsfield and others alowed by law ye 7th of September 1694 Thomas Pirkins is chosen grand Juryman to sarue at ye next Court houlden at Nubary the last tuesday of this instant: and Capt John How and sargt Samuell Houlet are Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at the Court aboue said.

Sargt Houlet propounded for a draine crose the way from his field to mr Capens meadow and ye said Houlet ingaged to make a bridg ouer it and kep it in repaire at his owne cost and charg: the inhabittence here preasent did mannifest thare free consent.

At a lawfull Towne meting ye 10th of october 1694. ye Towne being worned by ye Selectmen to Chuse a Towne Treasurer the Towne finding he should be chosen when ye other officers are Chosen and thare being but a small aperence the Towne did manifest by uote to sospend it for ye present.

The Towne did agree to isshew the deference betwene ye Towne and Sargt Houey about Sargt Houeys claimes of land in a course of law.

and ye Towne did Chuse Capt How and Isaac Peabody and Corpll Tobiah Pirkins to proseed with Sargt Houey in a corse of law in ye behalfe of ye Towne for ye recouering of ye land as he claimes which ye Towne apreholds to be thare common: or to chuse an aturny for yt end.

The Towne did alow of Leiue Bakers bills of charg giuen in to ye Selectmen for his serueing Dabuty and ten shilings for his expence at nubary and for copyyes of Records.

and also ye Towne alows Capt Hows bills of charg sixtene shilings for attending at boston and nubary courte.

and the Towne did agree to alow Corpll Curtious eight shilings for attending att Salem Courte all these bill ware giuen to ye selectmen in ye yeare 1694 and ware alowed and uoted.

Nathniell Auerill desents as to alow ye said Curtious his charg.

The Towne did manifest by uote that our dabuty Leiut Baker should prefer a petesion to ye Honored Genarall Court in this instant october

that Salem should run out ye deuesionall line acording to agrement.

We whose names are under written being apointed by ye Towne to diuid a parsell of land with Leiut Thomas Baker and Ens Jacob Towne and C— John How it being yt land which was in contreuersy formerly with Capt John Putnam we did meet upon ye 16th day of nouember 1694 and deuided ye land and The Towne made choyce of yt part yt Joynes to ye grat ashing swamp for thare share and ye aboue said Baker Towne and How haue ye other parte joyneing to Phillip Knite and others: ye diuisionall bounds betwene ye Towne Common and ye said Baker Towne and How: is about seauenty rods from a walnut tree nere John Nickols iunr begins at it and from thence on a straight line to an oylenut tree which is Isaac Burtons tree marked and so joyneing to Salem Line this being our mutuall agrement as witnes our hands this 16th of nouember 1694.

Ephraim Dorman	Thomas Baker
Isaac Pabody	John How
	Jacob Towne

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark for Topsfield.

The 29 day of may 1694 ye selectmen stated a way from Thomas Pirkins his house to ye roade to old father Wilds his house: we stated ye rode from said Pirkins his hous: bareing two rods in breadth: ye old beten way now in being being ye senter of ye way till we com to mr Bradstreets land whare a gate now standeth and then on ye northeast side of ye gate we marked a white

oake on ye eastwardly side of ye way in mr Bradstreets land by ye gate: and so along to mr Bradstreets bound tree: by cow pen brook so called: being on ye eastwardly side of ye way: and a red oake marked on ye other side against it: being about two rods asunder: ye way bareing ye same breadth all along: and then turneing to ye old ford ouer ye said brook: then betwene a fence on ye right: and a whight oake tree marked on ye left by ye northwest side of ye ford so by ye said fence till it coms to a popler tree marked by ye fence then turneing to ye left in to ye old beten rode and so ye beten rode being ye senter a red oake tree marked on ye left on ye hill: and then against sargt Ridingtons house leuing ye old way to ye right thare being a walnut tree marked on ye left side of ye way: and so on a straight line by ye west corner of sargt Ridingtons barne to ye old way as leads to ye Cuntry rode by father Wilds his hous: bareing ye full breadth all along.

Ephraim Dorman

Isaac Peabody

Elisha Pirkins

Selectmen of Topsfield.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

We whose names are here unto subscribed being apointed by ye seaurall Townes to which we belong uis Topsfield and wenham with full power to make an alteration of that part of ye diuisionall Line betwene our Townes from ye brook at James Moulstens Iland to wards mr Saltinstalls meadow we haue agreed as foloweth: being met to gether this seauenth day of december an adom-

ing sixtene hundred and ninety foure in order to ye completeing of ye same that whare as in an agreement betwene Topsfield and Wenham: Pigdins meadow so called was included to belong to Wenham and ye Iland commonly caled huckelberrey or Wenham Iland or ye gratest parte of it was included to belong to Topsfield: we haue now agreed for an alteration that ye said Pigdins meadow shall from hence forward belong to Topsfield and ye Iland commonly called huckellbarrey or wenham Iland shall from hence forward belong to Wenham: and ye bounds that are or shall be agreed to be ye bounds of Pigdins meadow till it comes to Beauerly ditch and then ye said ditch till it coms to ye Reuer shall be ye stated bounds betwene our Towns of Topsfield and Wenham: and in witnes whereof we haue here unto sett our hands Interchangably.

Thomas Baker

John Numan

John How

John Pirkins

for Topsfield

Thomas Kimball

for Wenham

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 18th of december 1694. whareas sum of Salem lays Claime to mikell Dwonills land for which ye said Dwonnill is atached: ye Towne did manifest that thay would stand by ye said Dwonill in this case. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen in ye behalfe of ye Towne to stand by Mikell Dwonill sen in ye defence of his lands as is Claimed as aboue said. uoted

The Towne did mannifest by uote that all honist debts due from ye Towne to pirtickquillor men in this

yere shall be paid.

noted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 8th day ganuery 1694 or 5. ye Towne haue made choyce of Leuit Thomas Baker to manage Mikell Dwonill senr his cause against Salem farmes and to asosiate to himsele whom he will to strengthen ye cause and to prosient it from Court to Court till ye case be ended ye mening is this case now comminsed against ye said Dwonill and ye Towne will bare him out in all his lawfull proseedings tharein. noted

John Curtious senr and Joseph Towne iunr we haue layde out away from Isaac Burtons to ye Bridg as foloweth: begining at ye said Burtons and so as ye way now goeth to John Robison his land: and then turning to ye right by a read oake marked on ye right and a white oake marked on ye left: and so along as ye way now goeth ouer ye old ford and so along as ye beten path now goeth by Joseph Towns house and so along ye beten path [* uer] all trees marked on both sids of ye way to ye Common: and so along ye beaten path to ye bridg: we layd it out two rods wide: Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield and entered ye 14th of gennuary 1694 or 5.

At a lawfull Towne meting the 5th of march 169 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Ensine Ephraim Dorman was Chosen Clark for this yere.

The Towne doth manyfest by note that thay are willing to entertaine our neighbours of Boxford as formerly we haue dun and to that end ye Towne hath giuen libourty to set up more seates in ye meting hous for ye entertaining of them. noted

Isaac Pabody is chosen Cunstable for this year ensewing. noted

sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Elisha Pirkins and Jacob Towne iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for ye yeare Ensewing. noted

Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins is Chosen Towne Treasurer for this yeare ensewing. noted

The Towne did mannifest by note that no bills of charg should be allowed by ye selectmen but what are aprebatd by ye Towne. noted

whare as thare is liberty giuen to set up seats in ye meeting house: ye Towne haue agreed that oure neighbours of Boxford shall haue equill preuelidg with our selues in seting up those seates and to inioy them as our selues: and allso to bye seates as are set up: and to inioy them while thay contrebut to our minnistrey: and in case thay remoue thay haue liberty to sell thare seates: only to such as shall contrebut as aboue said: and in case thay cannot sell as aboue said: when thay remoue ye Towne will alow them ye worth of ye said seates: and allso to inioy ye like preuelidg with ourselues as formerly answerably to what thay pay: in these seates as weare set up by ye Towne. noted

Capt John How is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls and Corpll John french is Chosen gran Jiuryman to sarue at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich. noted

John Nickalls senr and John Prichtet are Chosen tithingmen for this yeare ensewing. noted

Corpll John Gould and mr Timothy Pirkins and Corpll John Curtious are Chosen serueiers for high-

ways for this yeare and Daniell Clarke allso is Chosen sirueyer as aboue said. uoted

John Cumings and Nathaniel Auerill and Ephraim Wilds are Chosen fence uewers for this yeare and also Isaac Burton. uoted

John Kenney and John Auerill are Chosen to see that ye horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law. uoted

Mikell Dwonill senr and William Smith and Timmothy Pirkins iunr are Chosen pounders for this yeare. uoted

Sargt Samuel Houlet is Chosen to kepe the pound for this yeare. uoted

In answer to ye desire of boxford Towne we haue Chosen Capt John Gould and Capt John How and Sargt Samuell Houlet to treat with ye selectmen of Boxford or thare Com-mity to here what thay haue to say and make report to ye Towne. uoted

The Towne did manifest by note that father Louewell shall in Joy ye house and orchard for ye yeare en-sewing on ye same termes as for-merly. uoted

ye Town haue agreed that Mr Timmothy Pirkins may make a dam acros ye swamp at ye south corner of his field by ye meeting house. uoted

The Towne by note haue agreed that any ram that shall be found on ye Common any time betwene ye midle of august till ye last of october annually it shall be lawfull for any man to kill any Rams so found and giue halfe of it to ye pore and to haue ye rest for his paines. uoted

The 7th of march 1694 or 5 Ephraim Dorman tooke ye oath of a Towne Clark and Corpll Tobiih

Pirkins took ye oath of a Towne Treasurer and John Prichet took ye oath of a Tithingman: and Corpll John Gould and Corpll John Cur-tious and Daniell Clarke took ye oath of sirueyers of high ways and Nathaniell Auerill and Ephraim Wilds took ye oath of fence uewers before ye Honored Collonall Apple-ton.

At a third sessions of ye Generall Court of Election hild at Boston ye 15th of October 1650.

In answer to ye Request of Zacheus Gould and William Howard in ye behalfe of Topsfield ye Court doth grant that Topsfield shall from henceforth be a Towne: and haue power within themselues to order all Ciuill afayers as other Townes haue.

A true Copy as apers of Record, Examd P Is; Addington sacry.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dor-man Towne Clark for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye select-men of Topsfield 22 mar. 1694-5.

sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpll Tobiih Pirkins and Ephraim Dor-man are Chosen to renew ye bounds with Boxford men betwene Tops-field and Boxford. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meeting by order of ye Court ye 3 of aprill 1695 Timmothy Pirkins iunr is Chosen Cunstable for this yere. uoted

Timmoth Pirkins iunr being Chos-en Cunstable for ye Towne of Tops-field for ye yere ensewing: apereed and tooke ye oath proper to that office aprill ye 5th 1695 before me Thos Wade Justis of ye Peace.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dor-man Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpll Tobiih Pirkins and Ephraim Dor-

man being appointed to goe on pirambulation on ye line betwene Boxford and Topsfield and we appointed to meete them on ye seacond day of aprill 1695: accordingly we met with thare Commity and demanded of them to renew ye bounds but thay neglected and sent thare excuse to our Towne.

John Nickalls senr being chosen tithingman and John Comings and Isaac Burten were chosen fence uewers thay were sworne: Salem ye 9th 1695 before ye Honored Coll Hathron as apered under his hand.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 15th of may 1695.

it is by uote declared yt Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How shall enter a complaint against L Nathaniell Putman and & John Putman at ye next seuperier Court to be houlden at Ipswich for that ye said Putmans had giuen in a falsasious and desaightfull testimonies against Topsfield at ye last Court of Please hild in Salem to ye grat damage of Topsfield. uoted

Ensine Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Jueriman to sarue at the next Superier Court to be holden at Ipswich.

uoted
Corpll Tobiah Pirkins was Chosen representitiue to sarue at ye next Genarall Court of election at boston.

Charls Towne ye 21th January 1692.

then Reseued of mr Ephraim Wilds Cunstable of Topsfield ye sum of twenty fue Pounds four shilings in bills of creadit in parte of said Towns last asesment: I say reseued P John Philllips Treasurer.

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Charls Towne ye 24th may 1693.
then Reseued of mr Ephraim Wilds Cunstable of Topsfield ye sum of thirty eight pounds fiftene shilings and ten pence in parte of said Townes last asesment I say reseued P John Philllips treasurer.

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston may ye 8th 1694 Reseued of mr Ephraim Wilds Constable of Topsfield thirtene pounds fiftene shillings and three pence in parte of said Towns asesment I say reseued for mr Jams Tayler Treasurer P Jer. Allen. £13: 15: 3.

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston fabruary 13th 1694.

Reseued for mr Ephraim Wilds Cunstable of Topsfield four pounds two shilings and eleuen pence in full of said Towns asesment to ye thirty thousand pound rate I say reseued for mr James Tayler treasurer.

£4: 2: 11. P Jare Allen

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 24 of July 1695.

Capt John How is Chosen Comisioner to Joyne with ye Selectmen to take an account of ye Towns estat and to cary it to ye Shere Towne according to ye Honored Treasurers worrent. uoted

The Towne haue Chosen Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Sargt Samuell Howlet and Isaac Peabody and Ephraim Wilds to be a commity in ye behalfe of Topsfield to Joyne with ipswich or a commity in thare Towns behalfe to renew and settle ye bounds of mr Simonds farme betwene said farme and Ipswich

Common to preuent all firther Trouble at law and what ye maior part of ye said Commity doth agree about as aboue said the Towne will stand by and it shall be a finall determinasion. uoted

whareas fíue men weare Chose ye 6 of march 1693 or 4 to run out ye line betwene Salem and Topsfield ye Towne doth giue ye same Commity uiz Leiut Thomas Baker Capt John How Ens Jacob Towne and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Isaac Pabody power to send two men to uew that land as ye Towne doth conseue is our dew: and if ye said Commity or ye maior parte of them doe conseue it is well worth ye trying for: ye Towne doth giue ye said Commity full power to petesion to ye next seasons of ye Generall Court or Courtes ensewing to haue ye line run out seeing Salem doth wholly neglect: and ye Commity haue full power to proseed in a corse of law with Salem at Newbary Court or any other Court and from Court to Court till ye line be run out acording to agreement and what ye maior parte of our Commity doth agree aboute ye Towne will stand by and bare them out in all thare lawfull prosedings. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 28th of august 1695 Capt How is chosen and impowred by ye Towne and in ye Towns behalfe to sew any man or men as haue or shall trespass on our Towne common by felling timber on ye common and carrying it of to ye Towns damage. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 17th of Ssept 1695.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and Ephraim Dorman is Chosen to serue at

ye next seation of ye inferyor Court of pleas to be houlden at Newbary acording to warent. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild ye 17th of september 1695.

whareas a summons was directed to Topsfield Towne Clarke from sum of Salem farmes in which ye Towne of Topsfield was summensed to apere at next court at nubary by thare agents to answer ye aturnies of Salem farmes relating to thare Claims of Topsfield land in answer to which ye Towne of Topsfield haue Chosen Leiut Thomas Baker our aTourny to answer ye said summons and to defend ye Towns right: using such legall meathods as he thinks best and ye Towne will bare him out in all his lawfull proseedings. uoted

The Commity impowred to sew Sargt Houey namly Capt How and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Isaac Pabody haue full power giuen them by ye Towne to agree with Sargt Houey about ye land in Controuersy betwene ye Towne and Sargent Houey. uoted

The Commity as was impowred to agree with Sargent Houey in ye Towns behalfe about ye land in controuersy haue agreed as foloweth That ye bounds on ye west side of ye brooke of sargnt Houeys land next Topsfield common are as foloweth first is a stake with a heape of stones at Joyneing to John Andreus his land from thence on a straight line northwardly to two read oakes Joyneing together at ye stump marked: and from thence to another read oake nere ye meadow marked leaueing roome for a cart to goe on ye upland by ye medow betwene ye

last two bounds as ye fence now staneth: and from thence on a straight line to a grate white oake marked nere ye meadow: and from thence to an other letell white oake marked: and from thence to another letell whight oake marked: and from thence to another letell white oake marked nere ye ford: and so eastwardly to ye south sid of ye ford.

Dat ye 21th of Septembr 1695.

John How
Tobiiiah Perkins
Isaac Peabody

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 11th of december 1695 it was agreed on that all bills of charg in ye Towne about any as was implied in ye Towne or in ye Towns behalfe as apered honist ye selectmen shall allow but if any thing aperes scrupulus to ye selectmen it shall be deferred to ye consederasion of ye Towne.

At A Lawfull Town meeting 3d march 1695-6.

Ensign Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Town Clarke for ye yeare Insueing.

Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and Sargent Samuel Howlet Ephraim Dorman William Towne and Isaac Easty iunr are Chosen selectmen for ye yeare Ensewing to order ye prudentiall affaires of ye Towne.

Sargt Thomas Dorman is Chosen Cuustable for ye yere ensewing.

Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins is Chosen Towne Treasurer for ye yeare ensewing.

Sargt Daniell Ridington and Corpll John Curtious and Corpll Samuell Standly are Chosen tithing men for ye yeare insewing.

Joseph Borman and John Kenney and John french iunr are Chosen serueyers for highways for ye yeare ensewing.

Jacob Towne iunr and John Comings Elisha Pirkins and John Towne are Chosen fence uewers for this yeare ensewing.

Thomas Towne and Joseph Easty is Chose to see that ye horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law.

Elisha Pirkins and Nathaniell Auerill are Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trials at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

John Robison senr is Chosen Gran Juryman for ye yere ensewing.

it was put to ye Towne to giue goodman Louewell liberty to liue in ye Parsonage hous as before this yeare and a considarable company voted for it and ye neagitue was voted and few or non apered by houlding up thare hands.

At ye request Capt How ye Towne granted a small track of land to set a barne on by ye rode nere his hous prouided ye said How lays downe as much of his owne land to ye common.

Capt Gould and Isaac Pabody are apointed by ye Towne to lay out ye land aboue said.

These after named tooke thare oathes to ye faithfull discharge of thare sauerall places as thay ware chosen two before ye Honered Coll Appleton Esquire on ye 5th of march 1695 or 6. Sargt Thomas Dorman Cuustable Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke Corpll Samuel Standly and Corpll John Curtious tithingmen

Joseph Borman and John Kenney senr and John french iunr serueyers of highways John Comings and Elisha Pirkins fence vewers by order of Collonall Appleton entered by me Ephraim Dorman Toune Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston aprill 30th 1695.

Reseued of mr Isaac Easty Cunstable of Topsfield by ye hands of mr John Gould fifty eight pounds eleuen shilings and three pence in full of a worrent for fifty eight pounds eleauen shillings and three pence I say Reseued for Mr James Tailer Treasurer P Jar Allin.

£58-11-3. Copia vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke of Topsfield.

Boston desember 26th 1694.

Reseued of mr Isaac Easty Cunstable of Topsfield six pounds three shillings and nine pence in full of a worrent dated ye 13th September 1694 amounting to twenty two pounds thre shillings and nine pence I say Reseued for Mr Jams Tailer Treasurer P Jar Allin.

£06-03-09. Copia vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-houlders and others alowed by law Corpll Tobiah Pirkins was Chosen representative toat end ye next Genarall Court to be houlden at Boston on ye 27th of this instant may.

noted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 22 of July 1696.

acording to ye act of ye Honered Genarall Court houlden at Boston 27 may 1696 begun and hild: as requires aseser in obedience thare unto for ye leauing an asesment: our Towne of Topsfield haue Chosen Sargent

Samuell Houlet and Corporall Tobiah Pirkins and William Towne asesers for yt worke as is in ye said act required. noted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 12th of January 1696 or 7.

it was put to ye Towne whether thay would alow of a bill of Charge as Capt Gould gaue in to ye Selectmen about druming and drums and cullers: and ye Towne uoted on ye neagitue. noted

ye Towne did agree to alow The Towne Treasurer six pence pir pound for recouering and paying Towne debts. noted

At a Genarall Towne meting the 2th of march 1694.

Ensine Dorman is chosen clark for the yere insuing.

Sargt Redington and Sargt Howlet and Corpll Pirkins and Corpll Standly and Elisha Pirkins are chosen selectmen for ye yeare ensewing to order ye prudentiall afaires of ye Towne. noted

Joseph Towne iunr is Chosen Cunstable for ye yeare ensewing. noted

Daniell Clarke and Corpll Curtious are Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next Court to be houlden at Ipswich if sent for. noted

Sargt Isaac Easty is Chosen Grand Juryman for ye yeare ensewing.

noted

The Selectmen are Chosen asesers as ye law directs. noted

John Comings and Thomas Howlet and Beniamen Bigsbee are chosen serueyers for highways for ye yere ensewing. noted

William Towne and sargt John Auerill are Chosen fence uewers for the yere ensewing. noted

and William Towne is Chosen ser-

ueyer with ye other aboue said.

Sargt Howlet is Chosen to kepe ye pound this yere.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and Phillip Knite and John french Clarke are Chosen tithing men for ye yere en-
sewing.

upon ye petistion of Clarke french for ye exchang of four or fiue akers of land he request yt land : part of ye land as was Sargt Houlets land and to lay downe land as is on ye hill called mr Pimbletons hill as hath bene improved : provided quantity and quality be consedered and allowance answerable with straight lines in ye exchang of both ye Towne grants his request provided Clarke french be at all charg.

and Sargt Howlet and Capt How are Chosen to lay out ye exchang of land as aboue said provided that the said french lays down land for ye Toune next ye common.

Leuit Baker and Ens Jacob Towne and William Towne are apointed by ye Towne to renew ye bounds betwene ye first diuision of lots and ye cow common next ye reuer.

At a lawfull meeting of ye propriotors of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 10th of march 1696 or 7. it was uoted that ye preasent selectmen shall call all ye Cunstable to an account of all ye rats committed to them to gather belonging to ye minister or Towne and also giue ye Constables full power to proseed with all as are behind in ye rats comited to them to gather : to recouer hy sute or destres as ye law prouids and to stand by ye said Constables in all thare lawfull proseed-
ing.

At a lawfull meeting of ye propriotors and Commoners of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 10th march 1696 or 7. it was ordered that no wood shall be fallen on ye south side of ye Riuer on ye common for fire wood and no trees shall be fallen on ye north side of ye Riuer in Topsfield common for fire wood under a foot and halfe ouer exsepting birch maple and popler on both sids of ye Riuer : and no timber to be fallen on either sids of ye Riuer with out leaue from ye maior parte of ye selectmen : and who so euer shall fall wood or timber contrary to ye orders aboue said shall pay ye some of ten shilings per tree to be recouered by ye selectmen : and euery one are to take notis if any fells trees contrary to the order aboue said : and thay are to informe ye selectmen : and ye informers shall haue halfe ye fine for thare paines ye other halfe of ye fines as aboue said to be desposed of as ye Towne shall giue order : and firtther who euer haue liborty as aboue said for felling timber shall be inioyned to take ye whole top away in two months on ye pennallty for felling trees as aboue said to be recouered as aboue said : and these orders shall continew in force till ye proprioters shall pass firtther orders on ye same account.

We whose names are under written being Chosen by ye Towne to renew ye bounds of ye Common on ye south side of ye reuer : haueing marked a yeallow oake by John Curtiousis and layd stones at it : and from thence to ye place whare ye walnut tree was : we erected a heape of stones by a rock : and from thence to a read oake tree which we marked

and layd stones at it by Dwonills: and from thence to a whight oake tree by ye Riuer which we marked and layd stones at it.

dat 11 of march 1696 or 7.

Thomas Baker
Jacob Towne senr
William Towne

Copia Vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting 2 march 1698.

ye names of those as weare chosen and sumensed to Salem to be sworne to ye discharg of thare dutis respectiue in ye plases as thay ware Chosen to: Joseph Towne iunr Cunstable: Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke: John Comings Thomas Houlet beniamen Bigsbee seirueyers for high ways: sargt Thomas Dorman Phillip Knight and John french senr tithingmen: and William Towne and sargt John Auerill fenceviewers.

atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark.

The persons within named parsonally apered before mee: Salem march ye 8th 1696 and took ye oath to ye faithfull discharg of thare respectiue duty acording to ye laws exsept John french.

John Hathron Justis of ye pece.

Copia Vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Corpll Pirkins sargt Howlet and sargt Ridington and Corpll standly and Elisha Pirkins being chosen asesers took ye oath to ye faithfull discharg of thare duty tharein acording to law by me Ephraim Dorman Clarke this 7th aprill 1697.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 9th of aprill 1697

whare as ye Committy uiz Leiut Baker and Capt How and sargt Howlet and Isaac Pabody and Ephraim Wilds apointed to settle ye bounds betwene Ipswich land and mr Simonds farme so called so farr as it Joynes with Ipswich land: ye com-
mity apprehending thay haue not full power: ye Towne doth giue them full power to agree with Ipswich for ye settleing as aboue said: and also to straighten ye line by Thomas Perlies: and also to exchange with Ipswich for conueniency Edward Nerlands house and som land as thay see cause and ye Towne will stand by it. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye free houlders and others alowed by law of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 11th of may 1697: Corpll Tobiah Pirkins was chosen Representatiue to atend at ye next Genarall Court of Election to be houlden at Boston as ye warrant directs. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 24 of nouember 1697 Capt Gould and Leiut Baker were Chosen to Joyne with ye selectmen to returne answer to Boxford consarning thare prop-
osicions as thay sent to us about runing a line. uoted

Know all men by these preasents that whare as thare hath bene sau-
aral deferences betwene ye Towne of Ipswich and Topsfield consarning thare bounds betwene etch Towne: for and in considerasion of a finall Issue of all said differansis wee ye subscribers being ye Commities of etch respectiue Towne aboue mentioned being legally chosen and im-
powred to make an end of all deferences betwene said Townes: doe therefore mutually agree and deter-

men as foloweth—Impr— viz—that ye easterly line betwene said Ipswich and Topsfield: shall begin at a stake nere ye spring that diuids or parts ye meadow of samuell Poter and Daniell ffoster, said meadow lying nere ye dwelling house of deacon Isaac Comings ye said stake being about six rod from winthrop's corner westerly: said line runing south easterly to ye westward end of a hill called Pains hill: leaueing Edward Neallands Dwelling house about two Rods and a halfe in Ipswich.

Seacondly that ye notherly line betwene said Townes of Ipswich and Topsfield: upon runing thareof ye dwelling house of Abigell Pabody alias Parly: let said house fall either in Ipswich or in Topsfield on ye runing of said line, she ye said Abigell Pearly and her said dwelling house she is now in posession of shall be and remaine for euer included in Topsfield bounds in witness whereof each Commity haue here unto Interchangably sett to our hands Topsfield this 31st of may 1697.

John Wainwright

John Whipple

Phillip ffowler

John Deane

frances Wainwright

Commity for Ipswich.

Thomas Baker

John How

Sammuell Houlet

Ephraim Wilds

Commity for Topsfield.

Witnessis to said agreement.

William Gidney

Jacob ffoster iuner

Daniell ffoster

Copia Vera Compared atest Eph-

raim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 7th of September 1697 ye Towne did agree to make a new Bridg ouer ye Riuer. voted

The Towne did agree that ye Selectmen should apoint ye place where ye Bridg ouer ye Riuer should be made. voted

Capt John How and Sargt Samuell Houlet are chose to sarue cn ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be houlden at Newbary after ye dat hereof. voted

Vpon considerasion yt our grat Bridg ouer ye Riuer is so out of Repaire yt it is agreed upon to be made all new and in considerasyon yt ye Bridg and Causway is so ex-seeding Chargable and of grate Ben-nifit to ye County: ye Towne haue agreed upon and haue chose Capt How and Sargt Samuell Houlet to petesion to ye Honored County Court at Newbary: next after ye dat here-of yt ye said Bridg may be a County Bridg. voted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 27 of nouember 1697 Leuit Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen and impowered to petesion to Salem Court next in-sewing for alowence towards ye grat Chrg as our Towne is at in making a bridg ouer ye Riuer. voted

This may sartifye whom it may concern: that where as Leuit Thomas Baker John How and Jacob Towne weare in pertenorship: by order from ye Towne of Topsfield to seeck after incrochments upon Topsfields rights: and haueing had controuersey with Capt John Putman about som land claimed by ye said

Putman in Topsfield bounds: and haueing recouered it by law: and ye said Towne of Topsfield haueing laid out part of ye said lands for our owne proper right: I Jacob Towne aboue said haue and hereby doe resigne all my right in ye aboue said land: to ye aboue said Thomas Baker and John How equilly ye considerasion is such that ye said Baker and How shall secure me from ye Town of Topsfield from what ye Towne claimes of me as a debt whilst I was in pertenorship with ye said Baker and How: and I doe hereby upon ye considerasion aboue said freely fully and absolutely giue grant Resigne and set ouer for euer to ye said Baker and How all ye rights yt I haue or might haue had in ye aboue said land: for them equilly to haue hould and inioy for euer without any let hinderence or denial of me my heirs or assigns for euer; and yt it shall remaine to ye aboue said Baker and How as aboue said and thare heires or assigns for euer in witnes hereof I haue set to my hand this 27th of January 1697 and in ye ninth yere of his Maiesties Reigne.

Jacob Towne

Signed in ye preasents of us witnessis.

William Smith

her

Mary X Crocker

marke

Copia Vera Compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a Ganarall Towne meting the 1 of march 1697 or 8.

Ephraim Dorman was Chosen Towne Clarke for this yere.

Jacob Towne iunr and Daniell

Clark and Capt How and Elisha Pirkins and Ephraim Wilds are Chosen selectmen to order ye prudentiall affairs of the Towne for this yeare insewing. uoted

Joseph Borman is Chosen Cunstable for this yeare ensewing. uoted

Ebineser Auerill and Thomas Dorman iunr and Thomas Robison and Wiliam Smith are Chosen sirueyers for highways for ye yere ensewing. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker and Sargt Thomas Dorman are Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next county Court to be houlden at Ipswich. uoted

Thomas Pirkins is Chosen gran Jury man for ye yeare insewing. uoted

Sargt Samuella Howlet and Sargt daniell Redington and Isaac Burton are chosen tithing men for ye yeare ensewing. uoted

in answer to ye desire of mr Capen for ye exchang of a litell land as he formerly propounded for in answer thare onto ye Towne hath granted his desire to haue ye said land provided he layes downe so much land to ye common on this side of ye reuer and Joyneing to ye common. uoted

Leiut Baker and Corpll Tobiah Pirkins are chosen and impowred to call all ye Constables of Topsfield to an account forth with as are behind with mr Capen in those rates as ware committed to ym to gather and in case thay neglect to giue an account to them and to clere with mr Capen thay haue full power to sew ye Constables as are negligent in thare duty on that account and recouer it of them that mr Capen may haue his due and ye

said Collecters shall doe it without puting ye Towne to firther charge and make reporte of thare so doing to ye Towne and all so to use menes yt Boxford and Ipswich farmes pay what may in resen be expected from them. uoted

The persons after named apered before Leiut Collonall Appleton and took ye oath belonging to thare respectiue offices as thay weare chosen too on ye 7th day of march 1697-8 uiz—Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke : Joseph Borman Cunstable : Ebineser Auerill and William Smith and Thomas Dorman serueyers of high ways : Sargt Samuel Howlet and Sargt Daniell Ridington tithing men entered by order of ye said Collonall.

Ephraim Dorman Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye proprietors of Topsfield ye 8th of march 1697-8. whereas it was agreed upon in ye yeare 1661 that all ye Common on ye south side of ye Riuer should be diuided exept flue hundred akers to lye for Common to perpetuity : and thare being a small track of land as then was ordered to be diuided and was not : The propriators now haue agreed yt it should be diuided acording to yt same rule as thay deuided ye other Common as is diuided : that all yt are heirs or haue obtained ye right of those as it was granted in ye yeare 1661 may inioy thare owne : onely whereas thay is a body of clay found in ye said land : thay doe agree yt it shall lye Common to ye said proprietors. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker and Corpll Tobiiiah Pirkins and mr Zarobabell Endicent are chosen to diuid ye said track of land acording to ye rule aboue said. uoted

and whereas som haue made brick of ye clay in yt track of land as doth belong to ye proprietors of Topsfield as is ondiuided Ephraim Wilds is Chosen by ye proprietors to sease ye said Bricks exept ye owner will comply with ye said Wilds and giue satisfacktion : and ye said Wilds haue power to agree with him or them as made ye said Bricks : and if he or thay will not comply with ye said Wilds : aboute ye said Bricks ye said Wilds hath power to sew for sattisfaction in ye behalf of ye proprietors and thay will stand by him tharein.

uoted

We whose names are under written being chosen by ye Towne to lay out som land upon exchang by Clark John french with ye Towne haue acordingly dun as foloweth : we haue laide out to Clarke french four akers of land upon ye hill : which land was formerly Samuell Houlets land bounded at ye east end with a small walnut tree marked and stones at it : at ye west end with a heape of stones at ye brow of ye hill : allso a small bit of land of about fifty rods : at ye east end of said Houlets orchard ffor ye which four akers and fifty poules : we haue laid out of ye said frenchis land four akers and fifty poles : as foloweth begining at ye corner of frenchis pasture fence : to ye corner of ye widow Pirkinsis feild : we find it three score and twelue rods : and so we layd of from ye said french next ye corner from ye highway to ye Widdow Pirkinsis field : nine rods broade and about two foot whare we set up a stake with stones at it close by ye said Pirkinsis fence : and at ye highway we did ye like : and marked a raile and layd stones at ye

place and so we layd out Just aker
for aker and rod for rod.

dat ye 11th of december 1697.

John How

Samuell Howlet

Copia Vera compared atest Eph-
raim Dorman Towne Clarke for
Topsfield.

We whose names are under writene
being apointed by ye Towne to settle
a line and to exchang land with Capt
John How to set a barne upon acordingly
we haue dun it and perfected
what we did before which was not
well settled as foloweth: begining at
Daniell Clarks corner post three rods
east ward wanting fīue foot: to a
stake and a heape of stones at it:
whare ye said Hows fence now
stands and from thence ranging
northerdly six rods as his fence now
stands: leaueing roome of aboute
three foot betwene his leanto and ye
fence to another stake and a heape
of stones at it: it stands about
twelue foot of ye said barne as it
now stands: ranging upon a straight
line westwardly to two whight oakes
growing out of one stump: that tree
of these two as stands next to ye
fence is marked and is ye bound
tree: and from that tree upon a
straight line up to ye whight oacke
formerly marked by us: and from
that whight oacke tree last named is
a corner tree ranging southwardly
upon a straight line to a heape of
stones and a stake standing by dan-
iell Clarks fence as witnes our
hands this 2 day of aprill 1698.

John Gould senr

Isaac Paybody

Copia Vera compared atest Eph-
raim Dorman Towne Clarke for
Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of those as
weare quallified acording to law in
Topsfield on ye 14th day of may
1698.

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen
Representatiue to sarve his Maiesty
at ye next Genarall Court of election
as ye law directs. uoted

Boston may 31th 1697.

Reseseued of mr Joseph Towne
Constable of Topsfield thirty nine
pounds in part of a worrent for
seauenty eight pounds Rec-ed for
Mr Jams Tailer Treasurer P. Jer:
Allene.

£39. Copia Vera atest Ephraim
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston october 15th 1697.

Reseued of mr Joseph Towne Cun-
stable of Topsfield by ye hand of
mr Tobiiiah Pirkins thirty nine
pounds in full of a worrent for
seauenty eight pounds Reseued for
Mr James Tailer Treasurer P Jer
Allene.

£39. Copia Vera atest Ephraim
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston decemr 8th 1697.

Reseued of Mr Joseph Towne
Constable of Topsfield by ye hand of
Mr Daniell Clarke twenty nine pound
in part of a worrent for thirty six
pound Reseued for Mr Jams Tayler
Treasurer P Jer Allene.

£29. Copia Vera atest Ephraim
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston January 7th 1697.

Reseued of mr Joseph Towne Con-
stable of Topsfield seauen pound by
ye hand of mr John Gould and is in
full of a worrent for thirty six pound
Reseued for mr Jams Tayler Treas-
urer P Jar Allene.

£7. Copia Vera atest Ephraim
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston aprill 18th 1698.

Reseued of Mr Joseph Towne Constable of Topsfield by ye hand of mr Daniell Clarke forty eight pounds in full of a worrent for forty eight pounds: Reseued for Mr Jams Tayler Treasurer P Jer Allene.

£48. Copia Vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Reseued of Joseph Towne Constable of Topsfield for ye yeare 1697 three pounds two shilings for ye County Rate which were in full thare proportion for ye County Rate—P me John Appleton County Treasurer.

March 7: 97⁸ Copia vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

To Joseph Towne Constable we doe order you to pay out of ye cuntry rate to mr Tobiiiah Pirkins two pounds two: in siluer as sooné as you can conueniently.

dat 7 aprill 1697.

Samuell Howlet
Daniell Redington

Samuell Standley
Elisha Pirkins

Selectmen of Topsfield.

Reseued in full ye contents of this order I say reseued by me Tobiiiah Pirkins this 25th of october 1697.

these are true Copies of the order and reseight atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meting of ye free houlders this 16 of September 1698 and others alowed by law of Topsfield in obedience to a worrent: Quortermaster Tobiiiah Pirkins and Corpll Samuell Standly are Chosen to sarue one ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be houlden at Newbary.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 21 of october 1698 by uertue of an order of ye Genarall Court to this Towne directed to send reasons why a commity may not com to settle a line betweine Salem farmes and Topsfield: the Towne haue agreed to send reasons accordingly. uoted



RECORD OF DEATHS IN TOPSFIELD.
1658-1800.

COMPILED FROM THE TOWN AND CHURCH RECORDS AND
RETURNS MADE TO THE COUNTY COURT.

BY GEO. FR. DOW.

George Bunker dyed the 26th of May, 1658.

John Redington Sonn of John Redington dyed the
8 [?] of March 1659.

Issaack Redington son of Abraham Redington dyed
May 4th 1659.

A Sonn of Isaack Comings borne & dyed 28 of Agust
1660.

Damaris daughter of Frances Pabody died the 19
decemb. 1660.

Daniel Clarke son of Daniel Clarke dyed the 17 of
January 1660-1.

Symon Sonn of frances Bates dyed the 29 of Jan
1660-1.

Elizabeth daugh: of George Hadley dyed 2 of March
1660-1.

A daughter of Edmond Towne dyed 7 of Sept. 1661.

Abigail daughter of George Hadley dyed the 12 of
Sept. 1661.

John Dorman Son of Tho. Dorman dyed the 16 of
January 1661-2.

The Birth & Death of a sonn of Issaack Comings 6 of Decemb. 1662.

The Birth & Death of a Sonn of Edmond Towne 7 March 1662-3.

The Death of Nathan Wiles son of John Wiles 17 March 1662-3.

Prisillah the wife of John Wild dyed the 16th of Aprill 1663.

Phebye the wife of Zaacheous Gould died the 20 of Sept. 1663.

Ellen Wife of Thomas Dorman Senn^r dyed the 27 of february 1667-8.

John sonn to Thomas Perkins dyed the 19 of May 1668.

Robert Andrews dyed the 29th of May 1668.

Phebe daugh: of Joseph Towne dyed the 3 of January 1668-9.

Thomas Dorman Senior dyed the 25 of Aprill 1670.

The daughter of John Hovey dyed the 2 of March 1670-1.

John Davis dyed the 24th of december 1672.

William Son of John Comings the 30th of March 1672 [1673?]

Daniell Son of Thomas Dorman dyed the 10th of august 1673.

Sarah daughter of Robert Smith dyed the 28 of August 1673.

John Dorman Son of Thomas Dorman dyed the 7th of November 1674.

Mary Curtice daugh: of Zacheous Curtice dyed 31 of decemb. 1674.

Mary the wife of John How dyed the 2th of March 1676-7.

Thomas son of John Lane dyed the 6th of March 1676-7.

Samuell Son of Francis Pabody the 13 of September 1677.

Isaack Averill son of William Averill dyed the 11th of June 1680.

Mr William Perkins dyed the 21th of May 1682.

Cathron Wakling wife of Luke dyed the 8 february ² 1682 1682-3.

Luke Wakling dyed the 18 of february 1682-3.

The Death of Isaack Easty son of Joseph & Jane Easty y^e 30 of April, 1683.

The death of Jn^o Town son to Jn^o & Mary Town y^e 29 of Sept. 1683.

The death of Mary Curtis daughter To Zaccheus & Mary Curtis y^e 21 of Octob^r 1683.

The death of Zaccheus Curtis son to Zaccheus & Mary Curtis y^e 7 of Novembr^r 1683.

Thomas Perkins, Deacon, Died may 7th [16] 86.

Prisilla Lake y^e wife of Henry Lake dyed 23 March 1688.

The death of Mary daughter of Lieut. John Gould 11 of May 1689.

Jacob Pabody sen^r died y^e 24th of nouember 1689.

The Death of John Redington y^e 15 November 1690.

The Death of hannah wife of Timth Perkins y^e 14 of november 1690.

The death of John Perkins y^e 5 of March 1690.

The death of Elizabeth Perkins y^e 1 of April 1690.

Mary daughter of Daniell and Damaris Clark dyed on y^e 22 of august 1694.

John son of John and Mary Hovey died y^e 15 of June 1695.

Mr William Pirkins sener departed this life on y^e last day of october 1695.

Hannah daughter of Capt. John and Sarah How Departed this life 1th of nouember 1695.

John Prichet senior his daughter Elisabeth Prichet departed this life on y^e 30th of nouember 1695.

John Prichet senior his daughter Sarah Prichet departed this life on y^e 4th of december 1695.

Phillip Knite iun^r departed this life y^e 19th august 1696.

William son of William and Margit Towne dyed on y^e 23 day of december 1697.

John Endicut son of M^r Zarobabell & Grace Endicut deseased y^e 2 day of fabruary 1697 or 8.

Lieu^t ffrancis Pabody departed this life on ye 19th day of fabruary 1697 or 8.

Damarus daughter of Daniell and Damaris Clark dyed on y^e 30th of June 1698.

William Pirkins iuner departed this life on y^e eight day of July 1698.

John son of John and Presilah Curtious died on y^e 27 of august 1698.

Nathan Pirkins dyed on y^e 9th of September 1699.

Susanah daughter Ebinesar and Susannah Averill died y^e 11th of nouember 1699.

John Perly Dyed June 23^d 1700.

John French his wife drown^d herself may 13, 1701.

Phebe French dyed on ye 14th of may 1701. [Town R'd].

John son of John and Elisabeth Pirkins Dyed on y^e fifth of June 1703.

James Waters Dyed 11 Septem. 1704.

Ens. Jacob Towne Departed this life on y^e 27th of Novem^r. 1704.

Elisha Perkins Jun^r Dyed on the 24th of Decem^r. 1704.

Mary Peabody y^e wife of Lieut. ffrancis Peabody Departed this Life on the 9th of Apprill 1705.

John Willd Sen^r Departed this life on the 14 of May 1705.

Mary Dorman the Wife of Lieu^t Ephraim Dorman Dyed on 14th of November 1705.

Deborah Daughter of Thomas and Marsy Gould Dyed on y^e 10th Day of January 1706.

Sarah Daughter of John and Presilah Curtious Dyed on y^e 29th of Mar^h 1706.

Asa Perly Dyed April 14th 1706.

Isaac Burton sen^r Dyed on y^e 3^d Day of May 1706.

Stebens Cummings Dyed by the hands of the Indians on the third Day of July 1706.

Mr Daniel Borman Departed this Life on 27 day of Aprill 1708.

Sarah Gould Wife of Capt. John Gould departed this life on the 20th Day of Janu^y 1708-9.

Anne Daughter of Ivory and Anna Hovey Died on y^e 17th of July 1709.

Abigail Daughter of Ivory and Anna Hovey died on y^e 14th of august 1709.

Capt. John Gould departed this life on the 26th of Jany 1709-10.

Samuel son of ffrancis and Mary Pabody Died on y^e 23^d Day of January 1711.

Anne Daughter of Ivory and Anne Hovey Died on y^e 6th of ffebruary 1711.

Dorcas Hovey y^e Wife of Sarg^t John Hovey departed this life on the fifth of Nove^r 1711.

Elisabeth Town y^e Wife of John Town Dyed on y^e 14th Day of Decem^r 1711.

Hannah Daughter of John and Prissilah Curtis Dyed on y^e 24th Day of octo. 1712.

Joseph Town Sen^r Dyed on y^e——of——1713.

Thomas Howlett Dyed on the 10th Day of february 1713.

John Town Dyed on y^e 28th of March 1713-4.

Matthew Stanley Son of Samuel Stanley Sen^r Dyed on the 16th of April 1714.

Kathrin Perkins Dyed on the 2^d Day of July 1714.

Matthew son of Samuel Stanley Jun^r and Mary his wife Dyed on y^e 14th of Novem^r 1714.

Prissilah Curtis y^e wife of John Curtis Dyed on the 16th of June 1715.

Meriam Stanley the wife of Jacob Stanley Died on the 10th Day of April 1716.

Daniel Averell y^e Son of Nathaniel Averell Dyed on y^e sixth Day of March 1716-7.

Juleenea Daughter of Ephrim and Mary Willd deceased on y^e 22 of March 1716-17.

Sarah Howlett the wife of Samuel Howlett Dyed on the 26th Day of March 1717.

Ebenezer Averell Dyed on y^e 22 Day of December 1717.

M^r John Bradstreet Departed this Life on the 11 day of Jenery 1717-18.

Capt. Thomas Baker Died on ye 18th Day of March 1717-18.

Phebe daughter of William and Phebe Porter departed this Life on the 3 day of July 1718.

Prisillah daughter of L^t Thomas Baker and Mary his Wife died on the 17 day of May 1719.

Deacon Samuel Howlett Departed this Life March y^e 11th 1720.

Lieu^t Ephraim Dorman Departed this Life August 25, 1721.

Capt. Tobijah Perkins Departed this Life on y^e 30th Day of April 1723.

Thomas son of Jacob and Rebeckah Peabody Departed this Life y^e 25 day of Sept. 1723.

Jonathan Borman Departed this Life on y^e 3 day of October 1723.

Mercy Daughter of Jacob & Mercy Dorman Departed this Life on y^e 16th of July 1724.

Quartermaster Ephraim Willdes Departed this Life on y^e second Day of Aprill 1725.

The Reverend Mr. Joseph Capen Departed this Life on the Last Day of June 1725.

Capt. Thomas Baker y^e 2nd Died on the——Day of September 1725. ✕

Amos Willdes the son of Ephraim and Mary Willdes Departed this Life on y^e 25 Day of July 1726.

Rebecca daughter of Samuel and Hannah Curtis Died on y^e 3^d Day of December 1726.

Jacob Son of Jacob & Mercy Dorman Died on y^e Second Day of July 1727.

Damaris Wife of Daniel Clark Departed this Life on y^e 20th Day of Sept. 1727.

Capt^t John How, who was in his 92^d year died Decem^{br} 16, 1728.

Ensign Amos Dorman died Jan^{ry} 16, 1728-9.

Mary y^e child of Nicholas & Kezia Creed died Jan^{ry} 29, 1728-9.

Jerusha y^e child of Nicholas & Kezia Creed died Feb. 4, 1728-9.

The widow Mary Averell died March 14, 1728-9.

Sarah Pricherd y^e wife of John Pricherd died April 28, 1729.

John y^e child of Ephraim and Mary Smith died May 26, 1729.

Joseph y^e child of Joseph and Martha Robinson died May 30, 1729.

Jonathan y^e child of Jonathan and Elisabeth Perkins died May 31, 1729.

† Isaac Peabody son of Francis d — 1726 — J.W. Towne record

Jemima y^e child of Joseph Towne Jun^r and Jemima died June 24, 1729.

Sarah Averell y^e wife of Nathanael Averell died July 11, 1729.

Timothy ye child of Timothy and Kezia Perkins died July 17, 1729.

Ruth Porter y^e Daughter of William Porter Died July 20, 1729.

Dorcas y^e child of Jacob and Elisabeth Reddington died Dec^m 1, 1729.

Joseph son of Joseph and Abigail Cumings Died of the Smal Pox on y^e Twenty fourth Day of Decem^r 1729.

Abigail Towne y^e wife of Joseph Towne Sen^r died Jan^{ry} 8, 1729-30.

The widow Abigail Cummings died of y^e Small Pox Jan^{ry} 10, 1729-30.

Damaris Daughter of Jacob & Mercy Dorman Departed this Life on the 29th Day of January 1730.

the widow Elisabeth Perkins died February 6, 1729-30.

Micall Dwinells wife died March 26, 1730.

Micall Coffeens child died March 27, 1730.

Joseph Bowerys child died April 12, 1730.

the widow Sarah How died May 6, 1730.

Jacob Robinson died Nov^m 30, 1730.

Richard Towne Child died Jan^{ry} 18, 1730-31.

John Prichard died Feb^{ry} 7, 1730-31.

the widow Mary Prichard died March 5, 1730-31.

David Commings Child died April 5, 1731.

Jonathan son of David and Annah Commings Died on the first Day of Aprill 1731.

Joseph Dwinells Child died May 3, 1731.

Elijah son to Israel and Mercy Clark Departed this Life on ye ninth Day of May 1731.

Mical Dwinells Child died August 4, 1731.

Isaac How of Falmouth died of y^e Small Pox November 12th 1731.

Joseph Robinsons Child died January 17, 1731-32.

Nathan^{ll} Wood died February 1st 1731-32.

Nathan^{ll} Hoods Wife died March 1st 1732.

Thomas Bakers Child died April 1st 1732.

Joseph Towns Child died April 25th, 1732.

John Capen died April 26th, 1732.

Lydia How died May 14th, 1732.

Deacon Daniel Reddington died September 27th, 1732.

Jacob Estey died October 3, 1732.

the Widow Elizabeth Reddington died October 8th, 1732.

Jacob Towne y^e son of Micall Dwinell Jun^{rs} wife died October 13, 1732.

Josiah Kenneys wife died October 16, 1732.

Zacheus Perkins died Dec^m 1st, 1732.

Stephen Fairfields child died December 30, 1732.

John Curtice died February 23, 1732-3.

Nicholas Crees child died April 21, 1733.

Eliezer Lake died May 22, 1733, he was in his 98th year wⁿ he died.

Tobijah Perkins's Child died October 21, 1733.

Mical Dwinell's Child died January 4, 1733-4.

Cap^t Joseph Goulds Child died March 19, 1733-4.

Nathan Hoods Child died May 24, 1734.

Nathan Hoods Child died May 26, 1734.

Rebeckah Perkins the wife of Thomas Perkins died August 13, 1734.

Cap^t Joseph Goulds Daughter Elizabeth died August 28, 1734.

Stephen Johnson died August 29, 1734.

Sarah How y^e Daughter of Benj^m How died September 2, 1734.

Cap^t Joseph Goulds son Daniel died September 15, 1734.

Joseph Robinson died September 26, 1734.

Richard Townes Daughter Sarah died February 1, 1734-5.

Kezia Perkins y^e wife of Timothy Perkins Jun^r died April 5, 1735.

Phineas Reddington's son Phineas died May 2, 1735.

Deacon John Howlett died September 7, 1735.

the widow Sarah Perkins died october 1st, 1735.

Joseph Houeys Child died November 5, 1735.

Jacob Dorman's Child died November 20, 1735.

Richerd Towne's wife died December 6, 1735.

Phebe Emery the wife of Zachariah Emery died December 15, 1735.

Abigail Peabody y^e Daughter of Deacon Jacob Peabody died May 12, 1736.

Martha Peabody y^e Daughter of Deacon Jacob Peabody died June 17, 1736.

Elizabeth Peabody y^e Daughter of Deacon Jacob Peabody died June 18, 1736.

Sarah Bradstreet the wife of Sam^l Bradstreet died June 19, 1736.

Nathanael Peabody the son of Deacon Jacob Peabody died June 25, 1736.

Jacob Dorman's son David died June 29, 1736.

Susannah Towne y^e wife of Benja^m Towne died July 5, 1736.

Jacob Peabody Jun^r his Child died July 26, 1736.

Abiel Averell y^e Daughter of y^e widow Ann Averell died Augst 1st 1736.

Dudley y^e youngest Child of Joseph Peabody died Augst y^e 6th 1736.

Joseph y^e eldest Child of Joseph Peabody died Augst y^e 7th 1736.

Yeats Gould died August 11th 1736.

Jacob y^e Child of Joseph Peabody died August 14th 1736.

Martha Perkins y^e wife of John Perkins Jun^r died August 16, 1736.

Nathanael Boardman Jun^r died August 26, 1736.

Asa y^e Child of Josiah Kenney died Augst 31, 1736.

Sarah y^e Child of Phinehas Reddington died September 9th 1736.

Abigail Boardman the Daughter of Nathanael Boardman died September 13th 1736.

Elizabeth y^e Child of James Leslie died September the 21st 1736.

Leu^t Tobijah Perkin's Son Tobijah died September 26, 1736.

Jonathan y^e Child of Lieu^t Tobijah Perkins died Sept 28, 1736.

James y^e Child of James Lesslie died September y^e 30th 1736 and

Edmund y^e Child of Leu^t Tobijah Perkins died also y^e same Day, viz. on Sep^t 30th 1736.

Sarah y^e Daughter of Daniel Reddington died October y^e 5th 1736.

Daniel y^e Child of Lieu^t Tobijah Perkins died October y^e 7th 1736.

William y^e Child of W^m Perkins died October y^e 10th 1736.

Dorcas y^e Child of Daniel Reddington died October 23, 1736.

Thomas and Margaret Children of Daniel Reddington died October y^e 25th 1736.

Mary y^e Daughter of John Wildes died November 6, 1736.

Deborah y^e child of William Rogers died November y^e 12th 1736.

Katharine Perkins died November the 16th 1736.

John Wildes son Ephraim died November 26, 1736.

Ephraim Wildes son to John & Phebe Wildes Departed this Life November y^e 25, 1736.

Abigail More y^e Daughter of Joseph Towne's wife died December 9, 1736.

Eunice y^e youngest child of Joseph Towne and Daniel y^e eldest son of Nathanael Porter Jun^r died December the 19th 1736.

Thomas y^e eldest son of Ephraim Wildes died December 20, 1736.

Mary y^e wife of Nathan^{ll} Porter Jun^r died Decem^{br} 23, 1736.

Nathana^{ll} y^e son of Nathan^{ll} Porter Jun^r died Decem^{br} 24, 1736.

Edmond Towne and Rebeckah y^e youngest Child of y^e widow Johnson died December y^e 25th, 1736.

Susannah Averell died December y^e 26th, 1736.

Mary y^e Child of Nathan^{ll} Porter Jun^r died December y^e 31st, 1736.

having purposed (if my own Life be continued) not only to note down y^e Time of every particular Person's Death, but also y^e number of Deaths in y^e year, I shall therefore here give y^e number of Deaths y^t have been from year to year, since my ordination to y^e year 1736. The first y^t died after my ordination was Cap^t John How, December 16, 1728. Then in y^e years

1729 died 14.

1730 died 09.

1731 died 08.

1732 died 14.

1733 died 04.

1734 died 10.

1735 died 09.

1736 died 43.

An Account of y^e Deaths in y^e year 1737.

			Numb.
January	8.	Josiah Kenney,	1 st
January	21.	Jeremiah Town's child,	2 ^d
February	7.	Doctor Dwinells wife,	3 ^d
February	15.	Tho ^s Howletts Daughter Alice,	4 th
February	24.	Aaron Esteys Daughter Abigail,	5 th
February	28.	Aaron Esteys Daughter Esther,	6 th
March	17.	Richerd Stephens youngest child,	7 th
March	19.	Richard Stevens's son Will ^m ,	8 th
March	23.	Richard Stevens's Daughter Martha,	9 th
April	8 th .	Thomas Howletts Daughter Lydia,	10 th
May	1 st .	Luke Averells Daughter Mary,	11 th
		and Margaret King at the house of Mr John Hovey,	12 th
May	3.	Luke Averells son Moses,	13 th
May	7.	Mary Hovey y ^e wife of John Hovey,	14 th
May	14.	Hannah Averell,	15 th
May	18.	Joseph Boardman,	16 th
June	5.	Pheebe How y ^e wife of Joseph How,	17 th
September	10.	Jacob Dorman's Daughter Sarah,	18 th
December	5.	y ^e widow Sarah Perkins,	19 th

Deaths in y^e year 1738.

			Numb.
January	4 th	Sam ^l a Child y ^e son of Nathan ^l Hood Jun ^r ,	1 st
January	9 th	Mary a Child y ^e Daughter of Nathan Hood,	2 ^d
February	7 th	Sarah a Child y ^e Daughter of Israel Clark,	3 ^d
March	25.	Hannah Towne the wife of Gideon Towne,	4 th

April	26.	Jacob Esteys Child,	5 th
May	30.	George Bixbys son Enos a child,	6 th
June	19.	Matthew Peabody's son an infant,	7 th
August	1.	Simon Bradstreet,	8 th
August	7.	Timothy Perkins,	9 th
August	12.	Lydia a child, y ^e Daughter of Aaron Hubbard,	10 th
October	19.	Damaras an infant y ^e Daughter of Jacob Dorman,	11 th

Deaths in y^e year 1739.

January	13.	Isaac Peabody in the 42nd year of his age,	1
January	23.	Liu ^t Joseph Dormans Child,	2
February	1.	Richerd a child, y ^e son of Richerd Town,	3
April	21.	Prudence a child y ^e Daughter of Jacob Perkins,	4
April	29.	Liu ^t Zacheus Gould,	5
May	16.	Phinehas a child y ^e son of Phinehas Reddington.	6
June	2.	widow Abigail Dwinell,	7
June	26.	Sam ^l an Infant y ^e son of Dan Clark,	8
July	7.	Moses an infant y ^e son of Luke Averell,	9
August	1.	Ruth Towne,	10
September	1.	Abner a child y ^e son of Thomas Gould Jun ^r ,	11
September	3.	Ruth a child y ^e Daughter of John Dwinell Jun ^r ,	12
October	2.	Joseph Towns wife,	13
October	23.	Joseph Rhodes supposed to be in his 97 th year,	14

November 18.	Mical Dwinell Jun ^r his youngest Child, an infant,	15
November 23.	Jeremiah Towns child, an infant,	16
December 8.	Abigail Towne, y ^e Daughter of John Towne,	17
December 21.	John Curtice Jun ^r y ^e son of y ^e widow Joanna Curtice,	18
December 22.	Lydia Gould y ^e wife of Daniel Gould,	19
December 24.	Elizabeth Towne a child y ^e Daughter of Israel Towne,	20
December 27.	Abigail Emerson y ^e wife of Jonathan Emerson,	21

Deaths in y^e year 1740.

January 14.	Pheebe Towne y ^e wife of Jacob Towne,	1
	Daniel y ^e son of Amos Dorman, an infant,	2
February 25.	Tho ^s Bakers youngest child, an in- fant,	3
Feb ^{ry} 27.	y ^e widow Marlew (?) Clough,	4
March 10.	Susanna an infant y ^e Daughter of John Dwinell Jun ^r	5
June 6.	Mehetabel Peabody y ^e wife of Mat- thew Peabody,	6
June 21.	the widow Elizabeth Gould,	7
October 17.	the widow Bathsheba Howlet,	8
Nov ^m 19.	the widow Mehitabel Averell,	9

Deaths in y^e year 1741.

February 9.	Anna y ^e wife of David Cummings,	1
February 13.	Elizabeth an Infant y ^e Daughter of David Cummings,	2

February	18.	Elisha Perkins,	3
March	11.	Mercy Towne,	4
May	5.	Susannah Smith y ^e Daughter of Sam ^l Smith,	5
August	10.	Dan an infant y ^e son of Dan Clarke,	6
August	11.	Sarah a child, y ^e Daughter of Jacob Peabody Jun ^r ,	7
September	17.	Anna a child ye Daughter of Samuel Masters (?)	8
September	23.	Elizabeth a child, y ^e Daughter of Samuel Masters (?)	9
October	4.	Jacob Towne,	10
October	31.	Dinah y ^e wife of Philip Towne,	11
November	5.	the widow Hannah Abbott,	12
December	23.	John Dwinell Jun ^r his Daughter an infant,	13
December	26.	Oliver a child ye son of John Spalden,	14

Deaths in y^e year 1742.

January	28.	John Dwinell,	1
February	6.	Mary Dwinell, her daughter, an Infant,	2
February	27.	Joseph How,	3
February	28.	John Perkins's son John,	4
May	12.	Philip Neeland,	5
August	24.	Joseph Herrick Jun ^r ,	6
September	3.	Sarah Dwinell,	7
September	16.	Elisabeth an infant y ^e Daughter of Jeremiah Towne,	8

Deaths in y^e year 1743.

January	19.	Edmund Towne,	1
February	4.	Elisabeth, an infant y ^e Daughter of Eleazer Gould,	2

May	29.	Lydia, y ^e wife of Eleazer Lake,	3
July	3.	Ephraim, an infant y ^e son of Ephraim Wildes,	4
July	6.	Elijah, an infant y ^e son of Ephraim Wildes,	5
July	17.	Hannah Lummucks,	6
August	23.	Dudley Bradstreet,	7
September	13.	Jacob Dwinell's youngest Child, an infant,	8
October	18.	Madam Capen Relict of y ^e Rev ^r m ^r Capen,	9
October	23.	Daniel Reddingtons wife,	10

Deaths in y^e year 1744.

February	5.	John Dwinell,	1
April	23.	Jacob Dwinell Jun ^r ,	2
June	10.	Elisha a child, y ^e son of Jacob Perkins,	3
July	13.	Ruth an infant y ^e Daughter of y ^e widow Susanna Dwinell,	4
July	22.	Deborah y ^e wife of W ^m Rogers,	5
August	4.	Deborah an infant y ^e Daughter of W ^m Rogers,	6
September	25.	Priscilla Smith y ^e wife of Sam ^l Smith Jun ^r ,	7
November	7.	y ^e widow Hannah Clark,	8
November	20.	Lieu ^t Joseph Dormans youngest son, an infant,	9

Deaths in y^e year 1745.

March	13.	W ^m y ^e son of Aaron Estey,	1
April	7.	y ^e widow Sarah Bradstreet,	2

April	14.	Thomas Bakers youngest child an infant,	3
April	26.	Pheebe, a child y ^e Daughter of Nathan ^{ll} Porter Jun ^r ,	4
June	3.	Pomp, a Negro servant man belonging to Doctor Dexter,	5
June	15.	Jonathan, an infant, y ^e son of Nathan ^{ll} Loe,	6
July	1.	John, an infant, ye son of John Spalden,	7
July	6.	Elizabeth, a child y ^e Daughter of John Batcheller,	8
July	18.	Jacob Robinsons youngest child an infant,	9
August	23.	The widow Mary Curtis in y ^e 98 th year of her age,	10
August	24.	Mary an Infant y ^e Daughter of John Symonds,	11
October	3.	Isaac Perkins two sons, infants,	12 & 13
October	20.	Daniel Davis,	14

Deaths in y^e year 1746.

January	19.	widow Spalden,	1
February	9.	Dinah, a Negro servant woman belonging to Tho ^s Baker,	2
May	7.	Dorcas a child y ^e Daughter of Thomas Gould Jun ^r ,	3
May	31.	Lydia y ^e wife of Nathan ^{ll} Averell,	4
July	18.	Nathan ^{ll} a child y ^e son of Solomon Gould,	5
September	1.	Abigail y ^e wife of John Towne,	6
September	14.	Thomas Howlett,	7
December	25.	Elisha Towne Jun ^r youngest child, a Daughter, an infant,	8
		a Negro Servant Child,	9

Deaths in y^e year 1747.

Febry	14.	David Cummings's Daughter an infant,	1
April	15.	John y ^e son of John Le-Favour an infant,	2
April	21.	Abigail an infant the Daughter of Joseph Dorman,	3
May	19.	Joseph Dwinell who was drowned, attempting to swim over y ^e River,	4
June	8.	Eleazer, y ^e son of Luke Averell, a youth,	
June	29.	John Hoods Daughter, an infant,	6
August	5.	Sam ^l a child, y ^e son of George Dwinell,	7
September	18.	Simon Bradstreet Jun ^r	8
September	24.	John an infant son of Elisha Cummings,	9
October	5.	Tho ^s Dwinell,	10
October	7.	widow Mary Griffin,	11
October	29.	Priscilla Griffinds,	12
November	3.	Ruth, Daughter of Ensign Daniel Gould,	13
November	8.	Lydia Daughter of Ensign Daniel Gould,	14
November	22.	Daniel a youth, son of Ensign Daniel Gould,	15
December	10.	Benjamin a child, son of y ^e widow Esther Bixby,	16
December	15.	John an infant, son of John Perkins Third,	17
December	16.	Benjamin a child, son of Thomas Gould Jun ^r ,	18

December 25.	Elizabeth a child, Daughter of John Perkins, Third,	19
	Three Negro Children also died in y ^e year,	20 21 22

Deaths in y^e year 1748.

January	1.	Joseph, an infant son of John & Eliz ^{bth} Emerson,	1
		Hannah, wife of David Balch,	2
January	2.	Mercy, a child Daughter of Tho ^s Gould, Jun ^r ,	3
January	5.	David a Child, son of John Perkins, Jun ^r ,	4
January	9.	Jethro, a Child son of John Perkins, Jun ^r ,	5
January	16.	Ruth a young woman Daughter of Luke Averell,	6
January	17.	Timothy, a child son of John Perkins Jun ^r ,	7
January	24.	Joseph Hodgskins a youth	8
January	24.	Mary, Daughter of Cap ^t Tobijah Perkins,	9
February	4.	Elijah, son of Luke Averell,	10
February	22.	Lieu ^t Dormans youngest Child an infant,	11
March	6.	Benjamin Bixby's youngest Child an infant,	12
May	25.	Lydia wife of Mical Coffeen,	13
May	31.	John, son of Richerd Gould, an infant,	14
June	24.	Mary wife of Israel Herrick,	15
July	12.	Sam ^l Smith,	16
August	9.	Lydia a child Daughter of Eleazer Lake Jun ^r ,	17

August	14.	Samuell a child son of George Dwinell,	18
September	25.	Joseph a child y ^e son of Israel Herrick,	19
September	30.	Elizabeth wife of Joseph Herrick,	20
October	3.	Esther Perkins who died in an instant by falling into a well,	21
October	22.	Huldah an infant Daughter of Eleazer Gould,	22
October	30.	Nathan ^l Hood,	23
December	19.	Jesse Dorman,	24

Deaths in y^e year 1749.

January	18.	Daniel Clark,	1
Feb ^{ry}	1.	Huldah, an infant, Daughter of Nathan ^l Hood,	2
Feb ^{ry}	16.	Nathan ^l Capen,	3
February	24.	John Hoods son an infant,	4
March	2.	Jemima wife of John Perkins Jun ^r	5
April	9.	George Dwinells Child, an infant,	6
April	24.	Elizabeth, wife of Solomon Gould,	7
June	25.	Jonathan Perkins killed by falling from a chimney,	8
June	29.	Anna, Daughter of Cap ^t Joseph Gould,	9
July	24.	Deacon Jacob Peabody,	10
August	11.	Abigail wife of Nathan ^l Boardman,	11
Sep tm	2.	Susanna Averill,	12
Septemb ^{br}	6.	Elizabeth a Child Daughter of Cornelius Balch,	13
Sept ^{br}	11.	Joseph Herrick,	14
Sept ^{br}	21.	Jacob Dwinells youngest Child, an infant,	15

September	23.	Mary a child, y ^e Daughter of Joseph Hovey and Cornelius an infant son of Cornelius Balch,	16, 17
Nov ^{br}	5.	Richard Marshalls child & Benj ^m Woodbury's wife,	18 19
November	27.	Archelaus a child, son of David Towne,	20
December	6.	Ceesar a Negro Serv ^t man belonging to Aaron Estey,	21
Decembr ^r	20.	Cornelius Balch,	22
December	24.	Archelaus a youth y ^e son of Sam ^l Perkins .	23

Deaths in y^e year 1750.

January	25.	widow Martha Balchs son Joseph	1
————	28.	Israel Clarks Daughter Sarah,	2
————	30 th .	W ^m Towne in his 92d year,	3
March	4.	Nathan ^l Hoods son, an infant,	4
March	22.	widow Deborah Dorman,	5
June	15.	Robert Perkins,	6
June	22.	John Perkins,	7
June	29.	Daniel Reddington,	8
July	14.	George Dwinell,	9
September	5.	Sam ^l Tutoo free indian,	10
September	6.	Lydia, Second wife of Tho ^s Perkins,	11
September	27.	Cap ^t John Wildes,	12
Nov ^m	22.	George, an infant son of y ^e widow Hannah Dwinell,	13

Deaths in y^e year 1751.

April	3.	Nathaniel Averell,	1
May	31.	John Hovey,	2

July	15.	David an infant son of Capt Thomas Baker,	3
Sept ^m	7.	Aaron Hubbard,	4
Nov ^m	5.	widow Margaret Towne,	5
Nov ^m	17.	Nath ^l Hoods son, an infant,	6
December	2.	Elisha Perkins,	7
December	8.	Benj ^m Woodburys Daughter, an infant,	8
December	18.	Timothy Perkins,	9
December	31.	Joseph Peabodys wife,	10

Deaths in y^e year 1752.

January	5.	Nathan ^l Porters wife Eleanor,	1
January	13.	Joseph Cummings youngest son, an infant,	2
February	24.	Timothy Perkins,	3
March	12.	Ebenezer son to John & Elizabeth Emerson, an infant,	4
April	5.	Elisha an infant son of y ^e widow Lucy Perkins,	5
May	17.	widow Elizabeth Perkins,	6
June	29.	Thomas Gould in his Eighty Six year	7
July	5.	Joseph Edwards,	8
July	9.	Samson a Negro serv ^t Boy belonging to Dea ^{cn} Bixby,	9
Nov ^m	8 th .	Charity y ^e wife of Dr Dwinell,	10
December	7 th .	Jacob Robinson Jun ^r who was drowned,	11

1753.

March	6.	Sam ^l a youth son of Israel Clarke,	1
March	7.	Bethsheba a young person, Daughter of Israel Clark & the same day who dyed,	2

		Huldah an Infant Daughter of John Bradstreet,	3
March	13.	widow Rebekah Smith,	4
—	17.	Jacob Dwinells child an Infant,	5
March	27.	Elizabeth, wife of Eliezer Gould,	6
April	4.	Cap ^t Joseph Gould,	7
April	5.	John Goulds youngest Child, an In- fant,	8
April	11.	Priscilla Gould, Relict of Cap ^t Jo- seph Gould,	9
April	15.	John Hoods youngest child, an in- fant,	10
April	17.	Lieu ^t Joseph Dorman,	11
April	20.	Lydia Dorman,	12
April	27.	John Pricherd,	13
May	4.	Mary Lowden's Child, an infant,	14
May	8.	Priscilla Peabody,	15
May	15.	Ebenezer, son of Jacob Robinson,	16
May	22.	Eliz ^{beth} Daughter of Sam ^l Towne Jun ^r	17
July	2.	widow Susanna Wilkins,	18
July	25.	Jacob Gould son to Jacob Gould and Elisabeth his Wife Departed this Life.	19
August	7.	Cornelius Waldo an Infant, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson, Jacob Robinson Jun ^r a young man drowned at y ^e Eastward,	20 21

 1754.

January	20 th .	widow Cree,	1
January	30 th .	Richard Gould son to Jacob and Elizabeth Gould Departed this life.	2
February	4 th .	John Emerson Jun ^r who died at Haverhill, in y ^e 23 ^d year of his	

		age, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson,	3
May	9 th .	Asa Cree, a youth,	4
June	9 th .	Joshua Bixby, an aged man,	5
Nov ^m	20.	Uzziel Rea,	6

1755.

January	31.	an Infant ——— of Israel Davis,	1
June	7.	Joseph Peabody,	2
June	8.	Nathan ^{ll} Hood,	3
September	12.	widow Ruth Dorman,	4
October	23.	Elizabeth wife of John Hood,	5
October	28.	widow Prudence Boardman, Mical Dwinell 3 ^d Jonathan Redding- ton, Jacob Dorman, Jun ^r & Jere- miah Gallop who died in y ^e war	6 10

1756.

January	11.	Eli, an Infant son of David Pricherd,	1
February	22.	widow Amee Towne [widow of Jo- seph Towne, aged 87 years 10 months],	2
March	2 ^d .	Tho ^s Edwards.	3
April	3 ^d .	Mercy, wife of Israel Clarke,	4
April	12.	Hepzibah wife of Joseph Andrew,	5
April	15 th .	John Willard,	6
April	22 ^d .	Joseph Andrew,	7
April	25 th .	John Clarke,	8
July	8 th .	Susanna a child the Daughter of Nathan Hood,	9
October	12 th .	Enos Towne,	10
October	20 th .	Dinah, wife of Tho ^s Perkins 3 ^d ,	11

November 13.	Dorothy a Child, Daughter of y ^e widow Dorothy Pricherd,	12
	Sam ^l Mastin, Sam ^l Tapley & Da- vid Pricherd who died in y ^e war,	15

 1757

January 4 th .	Deborah a child Daughter of Mat- thew Peabody,	1
January 5 th .	Margaret wife of Sam ^l Perkins,	2
January 12 th .	Molly a child Daughter of Nathan ^l Low	3
February 24 th .	Mary a child, Daughter of y ^e widow Mary Clark Jun ^r	4
May 28 th .	Joseph Towne,	5
June 15 th .	Ruth a child Daughter of Sam ^l Phippen,	6
July 14 th .	Jacob Willdes Departed this Life at fort Edward.	7
July 31 st .	Hannah a child, Daughter of Tho ^s Symonds,	8
September 10 th .	Caleb an Infant son of Archelaus Rea, in y ^e war y ^t died also in y ^e year 1757. Joseph Edwards, Tho ^s Perkins Jun ^r & Sam ^l Marstin w ^c makes y ^e N ^o amount to	9 12

 1758.

March 7 th .	Nathan ^l Boardman an aged man,	1
March 8 th .	Nathan ^l Porter an aged man,	2
April 4 th .	Hannah an Infant Daughter of Joseph Cumings Jun ^r of Ipswich but died in Topsfield,	3

April	22.	Jedidiah an Infant son of Eliezer Gould,	4
May	17.	Widow Mary Wildes an aged woman,	5
June	22.	Lieut Nathan ⁿ Porter,	6
August	23.	Humphery Clark son to y ^c wid ^o Mary Clark Departed this Life in the Public Serues.	7
September	4.	Enos an Infant son of Benj ^m Bixby,	8
October	11.	W ^m Jewetts child an Infant,	9
November	7.	Abigail Bixby an aged woman,	10
November	13.	Micall a child son of Bartholomew Dwinell,	11
November	18.	Jacob Perkins an aged man,	12
		Those y ^t died in y ^c war from Home y ^s year were Archelaus Dwinell, Jabez Towne, Jun ^r , Dudley Perkins, and Arthur Browne which makes y ^c N ^o amount to	16

 1759.

January	21.	Deacon Ivory Hovey,	1
April	1.	Tho ^s an infant son of David Balch Jun ^r ,	2
April	14.	Asa Bradstreet, a young man,	3
May	4 th .	Aaron Hovey, about middle age,	4
May	5 th .	Mehetabel an Infant, y ^c Daughter of John Peabody,	5
May	21.	Sarah a child, Daughter of John & Elizabeth Emerson,	6
May	29.	Jedidiah an infant son of James Burch,	7
May	31.	Robert, an Infant son of Robert Perkins,	8

June	1.	Abigail, an Infant Daughter of Isaac Estey,	9
June	5.	Abigail an Infant Daughter of Jacob Dwinell,	10
June	11.	Jemima a child Daughter of Tho ^s Perkins,	11
June	16.	Dorcas an Infant Daughter of Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r ,	12
June	26.	Elizabeth, an Infant Daughter of Amos Perkins,	13
June	27.	Lydia a child Daughter of y ^e widow Lydia Towne,	14
July	7.	Rebeckah an Infant Daughter of Tho ^s Perkins,	15
July	29.	Rebeckah a child, Daughter of Enoch Perkins,	16
October	20.	Elizabeth Dwinell, aged woman	17
Novemb ^r	19.	Abigail Gallop,	18
		Two blacks,	{ 19
			{ 20

Anno Domini, 1760.

January	14.	Elijah Bradstreet,	1
February	12.	widow Abigail Pool, in her 97 th year,	2
March	5.	Archelaus Kenneys wife,	3
March	6.	Archelaus Kenneys child, an infant,	4
May	5.	John Batchellers wife,	5
August	18.	a serv ^t child belonging to Hugh Lynde,	6
September	4.	Joseph Cummins (?) a youth son of y ^e widow Mary Clark, Jun ^r	7
		also three infants, born at a Birth	{ 8
		children of Tho ^s Perkins, Jun ^r ,	{ 9
			{ 10

September	28.	widow Hannah Towne,	11
October	27.	Experience Towne,	12
October	28.	John Wildes,	13
Nov ^{br}	6.	Cap ^t Benj ^m Townes wife Mary,	14
Nov ^{br}	16.	Zacheus Robinson, a youth,	15
Nov ^{br}	20.	Sarah wife of Joshua Towne Ju ^r ,	16
Nov ^{br}	27.	Moses Hovey, a youth who died w th y ^e Small Pox,	17
Decem ^{br}	7.	John Chapman who also died of y ^e Small Pox,	18
		Those who died from Home in y ^e Army.	
		Joseph Smith,	19
		James Burch,	20
		Nathan ^l Boardman,	21
		Israel Dwinell,	22
		One Black,	23

Anno Domini, 1761.

May	24.	Susanna, a young woman, Daughter of Tho ^s Perkins,	1
June	18.	Sarah a child, Daughter of Joseph Gould,	2
June	22.	Mary, Daughter of Mical Holdgate	3
June	24.	Widow Mary Symonds an aged woman,	4
September	28.	Mary, a child Daughter of Stephen Symonds,	5
September	29.	Betty a young Person Daughter of Elijah Porter,	6
Octo ^{br}	12.	Isaac Cumings an aged man,	7
Nov ^{br}	1.	Sarah Towne an aged woman,	8
Nov ^{br}	19.	Widow Hannah Herrick,	9

December 23 ^d .	Dorothy Clark Daughter to the Wife of Capt. Benj ^a Towne De- parted this life.	10
Decem ^{br} 24.	Mical Dwinell, Etatis 91,	11

Anno Domini, 1762.

January 11.	Joshua Towne an aged man,	1
May 16.	Elizabeth wife of Elisha Towne,	2
July 21.	Othniel Thomas child an infant,	3
December 1.	Sam ^l Bradstreet,	4
December 15.	Ensign Solomon Gould,	5
December 30.	Anna an infant Daughter of Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r ,	6
	One Black,	7

Anno Domini, 1763.

February 21.	widow Sarah Kittery an aged woman,	1
March 15.	Mary Cree a young woman,	2
March 25.	John Davis an aged man,	3
May 8.	widow Mary Gould an aged woman,	4
September 2.	Moses a young man, son of Simon Gould,	5
October 31.	Enoch a child, son of Enoch Perkins,	6

Anno Domini, 1764.

January 22.	Israel an Infant son of Cap ^t Tho ^s Cumplings,	1
February 7.	Mary wife of Philip Neeland Jun ^r middle aged woman,	2
February 16.	widow Dorothy Riggs an aged woman,	3

RECORD OF DEATHS IN TOPSFIELD.

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February	24.	Sam ^l Perkins an elderly man,	4
March	22.	William a young Person son of John Balch,	5
April	9.	Ruth a child, Daughter of y ^e widow Rebekah Gould,	6
April	15.	Lucy wife of Mical Dwinell an aged woman,	7
May	9.	Abigail a child, Daughter of y ^e widow Abigail Potter,	8
July	3.	Elizabeth wife of Sam ^l Towne,	9
August	17.	Hannah wife of John Peabody, who died about middle age,	10
September	24.	Dan Clarke Jun ^r a young man who died suddenly,	11
November	12.	Elijah Clarke a young married man,	12
November	19.	Amos son of John Le-Favour,	13
November	20.	Hannah Daughter of Solomon Dodge,	14
November	25.	Dan Clarke an elderly man,	15

Anno Domini, 1765.

February	21.	Richerd Towne an aged man,	1
March	6.	Elijah son of Abraham Hobbs,	2
March	22.	Israel, son of Tho ^s Perkins Jun ^r ,	3
April	2.	Cornitt David Cumming an aged man,	4
May	4.	widow Abigail Hood an Elderly woman,	5
May	27.	Stephen Cummings a young man who died Comming home from sea,	6
June	17.	Nathan ^l Towne an elderly man,	7
August	7.	widow Abigail Potter,	8
September	3.	Cap ^t Thomas Cummings,	9

September 30.	widow Pheebe Wildes an aged woman,	10
October 30.	Sarah a child, Daughter of John Le-Favour,	11
December 26.	an infant child, son of Asa Smith,	12
December 31.	Mary wife of Asa Smith,	13
	One Black,	14

Anno Domini, 1766.

March 6.	an infant, son of Enoch Perkins	1
April 1.	Solomon an Infant, son of Dan ^l Averell,	2
August 29.	Joseph Hovey Jun ^r a student of y ^e College,	3
September 13.	Widow Susanna Cummings in y ^e 96 th year of her age,	4
September 30.	Sarah Hovey a young woman Daughter of y ^e widow Sarah Hovey,	5
October 6.	An Infant, child of Davis Howlett,	6
November 17.	Mercy wife of Jacob Dorman an aged woman,	7
December 11.	Deacon Dan ^l Gould an aged man,	8

Anno Domini 1767.

January 4.	Elizabeth a child, Daughter of John May,	1
February 8.	Mary, Wife of Deacon Bixby, an aged woman,	2
April 3.	Ephraim Wildes an aged Man,	3
May 6.	Dorothy, wife of Nathan ^l Averill Jun ^r ,	4

June	13.	Sarah, wife of Jeremiah Towne Jun ^r ,	5
September	15.	Ruth an Infant, Daughter of Dan ^l Hood,	6
September	16.	Joseph a youth, son of Ensign Joseph Gould,	7
November	18.	Hannah Willard, an aged woman,	8

Anno Domini, 1768.

April	16.	Dudley Smiths child, an Infant,	1
April	19.	Mary, wife of Nehemiah Herrick,	2
May	27.	Lydia, an Infant, Daughter of Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r ,	3
July	12.	Eunice, Daughter of Cap ^t Boardman,	4
November	24.	Josiah, an infant, son of Tho ^s Moor, One Black,	6

Anno Domini, 1769.

March	12.	Lydia Pricherd, a young woman,	1
April	15.	Richerd Cree, a middle aged man, who was drowned,	2
April	24.	Abigail, a young Woman y ^e Daugh- ter of John & Eliz ^{bth} Emerson,	3
May	22.	Sarah, wife of Palatiah Cummings, a middle aged woman,	4
September	25.	M ^r David Balch, an aged man,	5
December	11.	M ^r Jacob Dorman, an aged man,	6

Anno Domini, 1770.

January	23.	Abigail an infant, Daughter of Pela- tiah Cummings, died in Wenham,	1
January	28.	Jacob Foster, a young man,	2

March	27.	Widow Jemima Bointon an aged Woman, died very suddenly,	3
April	27.	Widow Lydia Stanley an aged Woman died very suddenly,	4
June	14.	Richerd, son of David Balch,	5
September	19.	Mical Dwinell an aged man who died suddenly,	6

Anno Domini, 1771.

January	28.	John Boardman Jun ^r a young man	1
February	2.	Lieu ^t Thomas Gould & John Batceler, both aged men,	2
March	7.	Philip Neeland, an aged man,	3
March	9.	Joseph Emerson, a youth,	4
April	19.	Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r his youngest child,	5
April	25.	Hannah, an Infant Daughter of Joseph Perkins,	6
April	29.*	Eliezer Lake, an aged man,	7
May	15.	an Infant, Daughter of Benj ^m Fisk	8
May	18.	Sam ^l Towne, an aged man, who was drowned,	9
		Also y ^e same Day died Priscilla a Daughter of Isaac Hobbs,	10
August	22.	y ^e widow Martha Perkins, an aged Woman,	11
October	5.	Widow Abigail Cummings an aged Woman,	12
Novembr	10.	an Infant, son of Stephen Adams,	13
Decembr	24.	an Infant, son of John Dwinell,	14

Anno Domini, 1772.

January	31.	Widow Elizabeth Reddington an aged Woman,	1
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* "April 19" Henry Lake's acc. book.

February	11.	Cap ^t Benjamin Towne an aged man,	2
February	13.	Mercy Gould, a young Woman, Daughter of y ^e Widow Mary Gould	3
March	19.	Widow Mary Neeland, an aged Woman,	4
March	23.	Nathan Hood Jun ^r , near middle age,	5
May	1.	Benj ^m Fisk, a young married man,	6
May	6.	A Negro child,	7
May	13.	Widow Mary Hubbard, an aged Woman who died very suddenly	8
June	23.	An Infant, son of David Towne Jun ^r ,	9
July	13.	An Infant, son of John Hood,	10
November	26.	widow Elizabeth Perkins, an aged woman,	11
December	25.	Ruth Dodge an elderly Woman,	12

Anno Domini, 1773.

March	3.	An Infant, son of Elizabeth Peabody,	1
March	22.	Sarah, a young married Woman, wife of W ^m Fessenden, A.M. & grammar School-Master of y ^e Town,	2
August	30.	Anna Towne, a young woman,	3
Septemb ^r	26.	Oliver Towne, a young married man,	4
November	3.	Zilpah, a Negro Woman,	5
December	9.	the Widow Abigail Dorman an aged Woman,	6
December	26.	Katharin Perkins, an elderly woman who died suddenly,	7
December	28.	Cap ^t Tobijah Perkins an aged Man who died very suddenly,	8

Anno Domini, 1774.

January	19.	Aaron, an infant, son of Stephen Perkins Jun ^r ,	1
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January	29.	Mehetabel, an infant, Daughter of Jn ^o Perkins 3 ^d &, 2
		Enoch Perkins a middle aged man, who died very suddenly, 3
February	26.	Elizabeth, an aged Woman, Relict of Cap ^t Tobijah Perkins, 4
March	23.	Henry, a child, son of Henry Brad- street, 5
April	14.	Widow Mary Dwinell, who died suddenly a very aged Woman, up- wards of 90 years, 6
May	15.	Rebekah Perkins, a middle aged Woman, 7
July	5.	Lieu ^t John Lampson who Died very Suddenly, 8
July	11 th .	The Rev nd Mr. John Emerson De- parted this Life Aged 67 years, five months, and four days. He was Ordained November 27 th 1728. 9
August	30.	Becca a Child of John Gould Juner, 10
Sept ^r	28.	Thomas Gould his Macy, 11
November	15.	Hephzibah Galop wife of Wi ^{ll} Galop, 12
November	20.	Elezibath Galop a young woman, 13
December	23.	Susannah Bradstrett wif of Simon Bradstrett, 14
Decemb ^r	31.	John Balch, 15

Anno Domini, 1775.

January	9.	An Infant Child of Stephan Adams, 1
April	14.	An Infant Child of Sam ^l Smith, 2
—		the widow Mary Rea an ageed woman, 3
—		the widow Mary Lake an ageed woman, 4
—		Benj ⁿ Kimball a student of Harverd Colledge son of Jacob Kimball Died the 19 th Aug ^t 1775, 5

September 7. A Child of Zebelon Perkins,	6
Samuel Kimball son of Jacob Kimball Died Sep ^t	
10 th 1775,	7
Enos Towne son of Stephen Towne Jn ^r Departed	
this Life 9 th Sep ^t 1775,	8
Esther Hood Daughter of John Hood Departed	
this Life Sep ^t 1775,	9
Daniel Bixby Departed this Life 22 ^d Sep ^t 1775,	10
Elisabeth Gould wife of John Gould Jn ^r Departed	
this Life the 18 th Oct ^r 1775,	11
A Child of Joseph Perkins,	12
Elijah Porter Esq ^r Departed this Life 17 th Dec ^r	
1775,	13
Daniel Hood son of Daniel Hood Departed this	
Life Oct ^r 1775,	14

The Wid. Edwards an aged woman Departed this	
Life Jan ^y 18 th 1776,	1
Meheteble Broadstreet and Lucy Broadstreet Dafters	
of John Broadstreet Booth Departed this Life Jan-	2
uary 29,	3
Nehemiah Towne a Child of Nehemiah Towne De-	
parted this Life february 10, 1776,	4
hildah Hood Daughter of John Hood Departed	
this Life february y ^e 18, 1776,	5
William Balch son of David Balch Departed this	
Life february y ^e 26, 1776,	6
Daniel Clark son of Daniel Clark Departed this Life	
february 29, 1776,	7
William Perkins an aged man who Died Suddenly	
february 29, 1776,	8
the Widdow Kittle an Aged woman Died March	
y ^e 7 [she was the widow of Samuel Kettell of	
Charlestown]	9

the widdow Anna Hovey an Aged Woman who died Sudenly March y ^e 10,	10
Elijah Clark a Child of Daniel Clark who died March y ^e 14,	11
Lucy Hood Daughter of Daniel Hood died March 31,	12
Luke Auril Died April 16,	13
Tamma Wilds Dafter of Amos Wilds died April y ^e 17,	14
Priscilla Perkins Daughter of Stephen Perkins Juner Died April y ^e 19, 1776,	15
Ebenezer Baker a Child of John Baker Junr Died April 24,	16
A Child of Mr Brindlecom Belonging to Marblehead died May 6,	17
Judah Marah an aged woman of Marblehead died May y ^e 24,	18
Sarah Bixby wife of Deacon George Bixby who Died Jne the 30 1776,	19
Prudence Ireland an aged woman who Died July y ^e 19,	20
Ceasar a Negro seruent of Thomas Perkins Junr who Died July 24,	21
an Infant Child of Jacob Kimball August y ^e 29,	22
Martha Perkins wife of Thomas Perkins Junr who Died September 4 th ,	23
Elizabeth Bixby who Died September 18,	24
Sarah a Child of Robert Balch who Died October y ^e 10 th ,	25
Nathaniel Dorman a middle aged man who died October the 13 th ,	26
Pellityah Commings a younge man who died october 27,	27
Richard a Child of Cornelious Balch who Died Nouember 1 st ,	28

an infant Child Abraham hobbs juner Nouember 13, 29
 Two infent Children being Twins of John Peabody
 Departed this Life December 27th 1776.

An Infant male Child of Ephraim Towne Jun^r
 Departed this Life January the 8th 1777, 1

An Infent Child, son of Mary Bixby Departed this
 Life April 13th 1777, 2

Lydia Daughter of Nath^l Fisk, May 16, 3

William Perkins a young man Departed this Life
 on y^e 18th day of June 1777. 4

Samuel Bradstreet Departed this Life July 6th 1777, 5

Ruth Bradstreet Relict Widdow of Samuel Brad-
 street, Departed this Life on the 25th day of July,
 1777, 6

Mary Perkins Daughter of Stephen Perkins De-
 parted this Life the 13th of August 1777 in the 27th
 year of her age. 7

September 7th. Jacob Batcheller son of John and
 Lydia Batcheller Departed this
 Life and the, 8

14th of September Ann Batcheller Daughter of John
 & Lydia Batcheller departed this Life, 9

Cap^t Thomas Baker Departed this Life on the 16th
 day of September 1777. 10

September 21st. Zebulun Perkins son of Zebulun and
 Mary Perkins Departed this Life
 and, 11

September 23^d. Unice the daughter of Zebulun &
 Mary Perkins Departed this Life, 12

August 11th. Esther the daughter of John and
 Ester Dwinell Departed this Life.
 She died with the Small Pox.
 ought to have been entred before, 13

September 23 ^d .	Huldah Bradstreet Daughter of John & Elisabeth Bradstreet Departed this Life.	14
October the 1 st .	Jacob Perkins Departed this Life,	15
October 7 th .	Esther the wife of Phillip Towne Departed this Life.	16
	Mary Perkins the Daughter of Stephen Perkins and Unice his wife Departed this Life 13 th of August which should have been entered before.	17
	Aholiab Gould son to Eliezer Gould Departed this Life on the 8 day of October 1777 being killed by a Cannon ball at the taking Bergoyns army in the Nineteenth year of his age,	18
October 16 th .	John Dwinell son of John and Es- ther Dwinell Departed this life and in the 18 th day their daugh- ter Mehetabell Departed this life	19 20
October 19 th .	Marcy the wife of David Perkins Departed this life	21
October 18 th .	Lucy the Daughter of John and Lucy Peabody Departed this life	22
October 20 th .	Departed this Life Mr Matthew Peabody, and Sarah his wife and Ebenezer Peabody son of John and Lucy Peabody all three in one day and under one roof, and was all three bury ^d at one time, Mr Peabody and his wife was both laid in one grave.	25
November 25 th , 1777.	Departed this Life Joseph son of Cap ^t Nehemiah Herrick.	26

December	15 th .	Nehemiah son of Cap ^t Nehemiah Herrick.	27
<hr/>			
January	7 th , 1778.	Departed this life An Infent Child Daughter of Phillip Mackinze.	1
February	1 st .	Sarah Daughter of Paletiah Cummings.	2
April	15 th .	the widow Hannah Towne.	3
July	23 rd .	Sarah Daughter of David Towne Jun ^r .	4
June	28 th , 1778.	Departed this Life Deacon John Gould, he represented the town at the General Court at the same time he died with the small pox at Watertown	5
August	20 th .	David Towne Departed this life.	6
September	21 st .	Joshua Cree departed this Life.	7
October	2 nd .	Esther Lynd departed this Life the same day Oct ^r 2 nd Benjamin son of Samuel Smith Jun ^r Departed this life.	8 9
October	y ^e 12 th .	Emerson a Child The Son of Thomas Hodgdon Departed this Life.	10
October	17 th .	Sarah a Child of Daniel Porter departed this Life.	11
October	18 th .	Dinna a Negro woman servant of Mrs. Porter departed this life.	12
October	19 th .	William son of Oliver Perkins Departed this Life.	13
October	23 ^d 1778.	James a Son of Daniel Porter Departed this Life.	14

November 23, 1778. Cap^t John Dodge of Brookfield
 being in town on a visit at
 the House of M^r Solomon
 Dodges, he went to bed in
 the evening in a Comfortable
 State of health for a man of
 his age, but was found dead
 in his bed in the morning, he
 was about 85 years of age. 15

February 5th 1779. the Widow Elisabeth Lampson
 Departed this Life.

May 24th, 1779. Amos Wildes departed this life,
 he died with the small pox.

June 7th 1779. Lois Wildes daughter of Amos
 and Hannah Wildes departed
 this Life. She also died with
 the Small pox.

September 11th. An Infant Child of Zacheus Gould,
 Jun^r.

Decem^r. 20 1779. Hannah Wildes relict widow of
 Amos Wildes, departed this life
 in a sudden & surprising man-
 ner, by means of her own using.

Feb^y 7th 1780. John Perkins an aged man.

March 12. Widow Rebekah Peabody a very
 aged woman.

April 7. Cap^t John Boardman in something
 of a sudden & unexpected man-
 ner.

April 9th. Sarah Towne a very aged woman.

May 18. An infant child of Abraham Hobbs,
 Jun^r.

June	28.	Dinah, a negro woman servant of Philip Kneeland.
June	29.	The widow Sarah Baker, a woman in years.
July	10.	An infant child of Moses Conant.
Aug ^t	19.	Priscilla wife of Cap ^t Joseph Cummings. The same day a negro man belonging to John Balch.
Nov ^r	10.	A young child of Nathan Fisk.
Nov ^r	20.	An infant child of John Dwinell.
Decem ^r	19.	Mary Foster, an aged person, a member of Chh. But resident in y ^e parish of Linebrook.
<hr/>		
Jan ^y	7, 1781.	Deacon Stephen Foster about 71 years of age.
Jan.	15.	The widow Eliz ^h Perkins an aged woman.
Feb.	11.	Theophilus Fisk an aged man.
March	22.	The widow Elizabeth Bradstreet, a very aged person, & y ^e only surviving daughter of y ^e Rev ^r M ^r Capen, the third ordained pastor of this Chh.
March	29.	Priscilla daughter of Jacob Averell.
July	1 st .	Philip Towne an aged person.
July	20.	A child of Nathanael Gould.
July	22.	Sarah wife of John Cummings.
Aug ^t	5.	David son of John Gould.
Aug ^t	17.	Cap ^t Nathanael Averell an aged person.
Aug ^t	20.	Hannah, wife of Stephen Perkins Jun ^r .

Aug ^t	26.	A child of John Gould, Jun ^r .
Aug ^t	29.	Elizabeth wife of Joseph Towne.
Sep ^r	24.	An infant child of Bishop Norton of Newburyport.
Nov ^r	15.	Thomas Wiles of a lethargy.
Nov ^r	18.	The widow Mary Perkins a very aged pr'son.
Decem.	18.	Susanna daughter of Samuel Smith Jun ^r ab ^t 18 years of age in a very sudden & unexpected manner.

May 31 st	1782.	A child of Nathanael Smith.
May	31.	A child of Israel Clark.
June	10.	Eliza ^b wife of Nathan Hood, in a very sudden manner.
Oct ^r	28.	Theziah, daughter of Amos Perkins, a young person.
Nov ^r	22.	William Perkins, a single man, about 60 years of age.
Decem ^r	11.	The widow Mary Towne in a sudden manner.
Decem ^r	21.	A negro girl of Cap ^t Nehemiah Herrick.

Jan ^y 31,	1783.	A child of Cap ^t Nehemiah Herrick.
Feb.	12.	An infant child of Enos Gallop.
April	21.	Aaron Estey in y ^e 85 year of his age.
April	26.	The widow Hannah Bachelor, in y ^e 80 th year of her age.
May	3.	Deacon George Bixby in the 92 year of his age.
July	11.	Nathan Wildes about 70 years of age, of a complication of disorders.

Nov ^r	25.	Doctor Richard Dexter, of a putrid fever. Aged 71.
Decem ^r	23.	Widow Hephzibah Wildes of a consumption.
Decem ^r	28.	Widow Abigail Fowler of a cancer. Aged 84.

Jan ^y 15,	1784.	An infant child of John Gould.
Jan ^y	23.	Widow Jemima Fisk. Aged 69.
Feb ^y	20.	Miriam, wife of Nehemiah Herrick, of a consumption. Aged 37.
March	15.	A child of David Hobbs, still born.
April	29.	Widow Mary Gould, of a complica ⁿ of disorders. Aged 73.
May	26.	Lydia Symons, of a consumption. Aged 66.
June	3 ^d .	Jeremiah Perley in a very sudden manner (aged 35) occasioned by a part of a frame for a barn giving way, at the time of raising. A considerable number were wounded at the same time, tho' but few received any material injury.
Sep ^r	16.	Jacob Dwinnell of a Dropsy. Aged 70.
Oct ^r	1 st .	Priscilla, wife of Nathaniel Herrick. Aged 32.
Oct ^r	4 th .	Betty wife of David Balch Tertius, of a consumption. Aet. 22.
Decem ^r	26.	Sarah Averell, a single person.

Feb ^y 25,	1785.	Anna wife of John Baker of a cancer. Aged 66.
April	7.	An infant child of Amos Hood.

May	21.	An infant child of David Perkins Junr.
June	4.	Widow Hannah Averell of a consumption. Aged 75.
June	23.	A child of Samson, a negro man, a year old.
July	1.	A child of Roger Balch, 3 weeks old.
Sep ^r	7.	Jeremy Averill.
Oct.	1.	Molly, wife of Dan ^l Gould. Æt. 34.
Oct.	10.	Aaron, son of David Balch, Junr.
Oct.	16.	Joseph Andrews.
Nov.	14.	Samuel Smith Esqr of an apoplexy, 72.
Decem ^r	4.	Molly, an infant, daughter of Daniel Gould.

Feb ^y 21,	1786.	Sara Gould, a single person.
March	4.	Thomas Perkins.
March	27.	Abra ^m Hobbs of a Dropsy. Æt. 67.
July	8.	Abigail wife of Stephen Foster, Consumption, 46.
Sep ^r	25.	Widow Martha Clarke of a putrid fever. Æt. 84.

Jan ^y 21,	1787.	An infant, daughter of David Balch, Junr.
April	17.	David Balch of a palsy. Æt. 73.
May	21.	An infant, daughter of Aaron Kneeland.
June	25.	Elisha Willes, Complication of disorders. Æt. 67.
Decem ^r	15.	Rhoda, wife of David Hobbs.

Jan ^y 25,	1788.	Simon Bradstreet. Æt. 84.
Jan ^y	31.	Joshua Towne, of an inflammatory fever. Æt. 65 years.

March	1 st .	Polly, daughter of Elisha Perkins. Canker-rash. $\text{\AA}t.$ 2 years & $\frac{1}{2}$.
March	26.	Anna, wife of Israel Clarke.
April	15.	Jacob, an infant son of John Dwinell.
April	17.	John Perkins Jun ^r of a Scarlet Fev. 31.
Oct.	7.	Hannah wife of Deacon Solomon Dodge.
Oct.	19.	Josiah Son of Josiah Lamson.
December	20 th 1788.	Ester Gould, widow of Deacon John Gould. $\text{\AA}t.$ 71.

Nov. 24th A.D. 1789. Israel Clark, aged 88.

March	19 th A.D. 1790.	Mary Perkins, Relict of Capt. John Perkins. Aged 76.
March	23 ^d .	Rebecca Foster, Relict of Deacon Ste- phen Foster. Aged 75.
April	1 st .	M ^{rs} Elizabeth Emerson, Widow of y ^e Rev. John Emerson. Aged 81.
April	5 th .	Hannah Gould wife of Nathaniel Gould. $\text{\AA}t$ 34.
May	7 th .	Daniel Esty Jr. $\text{\AA}t.$ 21.
May	18 th .	Nathaniel Bragg. $\text{\AA}t.$ 88.
May	22.	M ^{rs} Averill Widow of Capt Averill deceased. $\text{\AA}t.$ 84.
July	21 st .	Israel Clark. $\text{\AA}t.$ 58.
Oct ^r	5 th .	Doct ^r Joseph Bradstreet. Aged —.
Oct ^r	23 ^d .	Cap ^t Stephen Perkins. Aged 64.
Nov.	17 th .	Mehitable Kimball Daughter of M ^r Jacob Kimball. Aged 32 [Total 11].

Jan. 1st A.D. 1791. Sally Gould wife of John Gould 3rd
aged —.

Jan. 10th. Thomas Symonds. Æt. 80.

March 30th. M^{rs} Cummins Wife of Joseph Cummins.

June 6th. M^{rs} Lucy Cleaveland wife of Nehemiah
Cleaveland Esq^r. Æt. 29.

June 14th. Jacob Averell. Æt. 88.

July 13th. Stephen Foster. Æt. —.

Sept^t 9th. Anna Hobbs. Widow. Æt. 82.

Oct^r 4th. Widow Porter. Æt. 81. [Total 8].

Jan. 11th A.D. 1792. A child of Oliver Perkins.

Jan 20th. A child of Jacob Towne Jun^r.

April —. Rebeca Gould wife of Zacheus Gould.
Æt. 70.

May 4th. Nathan Hood. Æt. 87.

July —. Robert, a child of Robert Lake. Aged
3 years.

— David, a child of John Gould. Aged 2
years.

July 22^d. M^{rs} Anna Cummings, Widow of Rev^d
Joseph Cummings. Æt. 38.

Augst 5th. Samson, a negro man. Æt. 60.

Sept. 29th. Priscilla Kimball Daughter of Jacob
Kimball Æt. 27th.

Oct^r 6th. The Widow Hovey. Æt. 72.

Oct^r 14th. A Child of Asehel Huntington.

December 6th. M^{rs} Cummings Wife of Cap^t Thomas
Cummings. Æt. —.

December 7th. M^{rs} Priscilla Kimball, wife of Mr. Ja-
cob Kimball. Æt. —.

January 2^d, 1793. M^r Zaccheus Gould. Æt. 75.

April	—	Anna Wallis, Æt. 73.
June	—	Mr Butman. Æt. 16.
Aug ^t	—	A child of John Perkins, Jnr. Drowned Æt. 6 years.
Sept.	—	Mrs Gould wife of Simon Gould, quite aged.
Sept	10 th .	Mr Ephraim Towne Æt. 68.
Oct ^r	—	Asa Bradstreet. Æt. 25. Killed by y ^e Wheels of a loaded Waggon which passed over his head.
—	—	A child of Dudley Wildes, infant.

January 22^d, 1794. Betsy Perkins Daughter of Amos Perkins. Æt. 29.

Jan.	27 th .	Nathan Perkins. Æt. 64.
Feb.	—	A child of John Perkins, Jnr.
March	1 st .	Widow Rebecca Balch. Æt. 80.
April	—	Cap ^t Joseph Cummings. Æt. 101.
May	—	John Cree. Æt. 72.
June	21 st .	Widow Dorman. Mrs Symonds.
December.	—	A child of Asa Perkins. 3 y ^{rs} old.

Feb. 18,	1795.	Mrs Lake*. Æt. 65.
March	2 ^d .	Jemima Fisk. Æt. 46.
April	25 th .	Lydia Kimball. Æt. 22.
April	27 th .	Experience a child of Nehe ^h Cleaveland.
May	13 th .	The Widow Rust. Æt. 90.
June	2 ^d .	Benjamin Bixby, Jr. Aged 17 years.
—	—	Humphry, a son of Zaccheus Gould. Aged two & half years.
—	—	A child of Stephen Perley 2 ^d Æt. 5 years.

* "Sary Lake" Henry Lake's acct. book.

June	22 ^d .	Oliver, a son of Simon Gould, Jr. Aged 5 years.
July	12 th .	Joshua Conant. <i>Æt.</i> 15 y ^{rs} .
July	15 th .	A child of Elijah Gould. <i>Æt.</i> 5 months.
July	19 th .	A child of Elijah Gould. <i>Æt.</i> 24 y ^{rs} .
Aug st	21 st .	Cornelius Balch. <i>Æt.</i> 45.
Aug st 30 th & Sept. 1 st .		Two children of Joseph Cree one aged three, & y ^e other five years. Both buried at once.
Sept.	4 th	John Cree, a child of Joseph Cree. <i>Æt.</i> short of a year.
Oct ^r	14 th .	A child of John Perkins, Jr. The above children & youth who have died since June 1 st Died with y ^e Scarlatina Anginasa.
Oct ^r	27 th .	Abraham Foster. <i>Æt.</i> 77. In usual health, fainted & Died in a moment.
Oct ^r	29 th .	A son of the Widow Towne Aged ten years — of y ^e scarletina.
Decembr	17 th .	John Perkins of a lingering illness. <i>Æt.</i> 74.
Decembr	20 th .	M ^r Rhodes a native of Marblehead, found Dead in y ^e in field. <i>Æt.</i> 52.

March 29 th , 1796.		Eliezer Lake. <i>Æt.</i> 67 years.
—		Samuel Cummings. <i>Æt.</i> 64 years.
—		A child of Thomas Tenney. <i>Æt.</i> 5 years.
April	5 th .	Betsey Gould. <i>Æt.</i> 22.
April	7 th .	Phillip Kneeland. <i>Æt.</i> 82 years.
April	11 th .	Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah Cleveland, a Child <i>Æt.</i> 3 years. Scarletina.
May	8 th .	Hannah Moore. <i>Æt.</i> 20 years. Con- sumption.

July	—.	A child of Jonas Merriam Æt. 3 months.
August	11 th .	A child of Simon Gould Jr Æt. 7 months. Scarletina.
Sept.	9 th .	A child of Daniel Bordman Æt. 8 years. Scarletina.
Oct ^r	26 th .	Stephen Perkins. Æt. 50. Illiac Pas- sion.
Nov ^r	20 th .	David Kimball Æt. 24. Putrid fever.
Decemb ^r	11 th .	William Perkins Æt. 32. Consumption.

June 14 th	1797.	John Rea, aged 67 years Dropsy.
June	28 th .	Priscilla Smith Widdow of Sam ^l Smith Esq ^r Deceased, Æt. 83. [The above is recorded May 27, 1797, on Town Records.]
Sept ^t	9 th .	M ^{rs} Averell Wife of Elijah Averell. Æt. 36 years.
Oct ^r	10 th .	John Lamson. Æt. 70 years.
—		Two infant, twin children of Moses Averell.
Nov ^r		M ^{rs} Cummings Wife of Jonathan Cum- mings. M ^{rs} Elisabeth wife of Mr Jonathan Cummings departed this life october 20 th 1797 aged 52 years.

February 21st, 1798. A child of Joseph Gould. Æt. one
year.

Died at Topsfield on the 17th day of
May 1798 at the dwelling house of
Daniel Balch, Jacob Cale aged about
16 years a Native of Edenton in
North Carolina.

July	25 th .	John Balch Æt. 59. very suddenly.
July	29 th .	Moses Averell. Æt. 29.
Sept ^r		John Le Favour. Æt. 81.
Oct ^r		M ^{rs} Plummer. Æt. 36.
Nov		M ^r Plummer.
Decemb ^r		Widdow Kezia Dannel. Æt. 80.

January	24 th 1799.	A child of Sylvanus Willes. Æt. 3 y ^r .
January	28 th .	A child of Israel Rea. Æt. 2 years.
Feb.	16 th .	The wife of Elnathan Hubbard. Æt. 50 years.
Feb ^y	20 th .	Abigail Towne sister of David and Joseph Towne. Æt. 56.
March	17 th .	An Infant child of Joseph Gould, Jur.
May	22 ^d .	Widdow Priscilla Averell Æt. 94 years.
Sept ^r	22 ^d .	A child of Abraham Hobbs, Jr Æt. 3 months.
Oct ^r	27.	Ephraim Towne, Jur. Æt. 21 years.
Nov.	9 th .	Richard an infant child of John Hood, Jr.

May 8,	1800.	Black child belonging to Nantz. Æt. 2 years.
May	12 th .	M ^{rs} Elisabeth Towne, wife of Jacob Towne. Æt. 68.
June	12 th .	A child of Thomas Perkins. Æt. 8.
June	24 th .	John Conant, suddenly. Æt. 32.
June	29 th .	Widdow Ruth Cree. Æt. 71.
July	21 st .	An infant child of Enos Lake } Twins.
Aug st	6 th .	An infant child of Enos Lake }
Aug st	9 th .	Widdow Sarah Towne, Relict of Ephraim Towne. Æt. 72.

- July 27th. An infant child belonging to Abra^m
Hobbs, Jr.
- Augst 22. Nathaniel Foster. Æt. 37.
- Sept^r 20th. Isaac Averell, Jr A.M. Candidate for
the ministry. Was under a call f^m
y^e chh. in Brookfield south parish.
The 1st Day of Oct^r was appointed
for his ordination. Æt. 33.
- Sept^r 29. Fanny Perley Daughter of Stephen
Perley. Æt. 13.
- October 12th. Catharine Wildes. Æt. 86.

Letters From a Gold Hunter.

CALIFORNIA JOURNALS AND CORRESPONDENCE OF DAVID LAKE OF TOPSFIELD,
MASS., 1852-1855.

EDITED BY GEO. FRIS. DOW.

In the spring of 1848, San Francisco on the Californian coast was a village of about seven hundred inhabitants, and boasted of two weekly newspapers, the "Californian" and the "California Star." On the 15th of March of that year the former printed a short paragraph saying that gold had been discovered at Sutter's mill on the American river. The news received but passing attention at the time but soon came accounts of the increasing production of gold and men began to leave for the mines in large numbers. By the middle of June the news had spread over the whole territory, and stores, workshops, wives and even fields of ripened grain were left to care for themselves.

The Pacific seaports were soon filled with the contagion of gold excitement, but it was not until the latter part of the year that the news reached the Atlantic sea board, and even then it was received with but little credence, but the arrival of large amounts of "dust" at Panama and New York in the latter part of the winter, put an end to all doubt and caused a rush of migration unparalleled in modern history. Rumor had it, and the newspapers of the day confirmed the story, that the valleys and ravines of the Pacific coast showed the presence of vast

deposits of nuggets and particles of pure gold. Any man who could wield a pick and shovel and a tin pan for washing the dirt was sure of a fortune. The wildest excitement prevailed throughout the country and every city and town furnished its quota of feverish gold seekers. Men of all ages and occupations joined in the mad rush for sudden wealth.

The adventurers had several routes from which to choose. Those from New England and the Middle States generally went by sailing vessel via Cape Horn; those from the Southern States chose the Isthmus of Panama, or Mexico, while the Western pioneers braved the perils and hardships of the prairie trails and Rocky Mountain passes. The Essex county men in the early stages of the rush almost without exception went via the Cape in small sailing vessels from Newburyport or Boston. Schooners, brigs, sailing vessels of all ages and conditions were transformed by a coat of paint, and after fitting out for the long voyage sailed with full passenger lists, too often in the direction of misery, shipwreck and death.

The first to go from Topsfield were the brothers Constantine and Alfred McKenzie and Nathaniel Foster, the first two sailing from Boston Nov. 13, 1849 in the B. L. Allen, a schooner of only 150 tons, Capt.

Isaac Morgan, afterwards of this town, commander, while Foster sailed on the same day from Newburyport in the bark *Anna*, Capt. Savory. Singularly enough the two vessels reached Cape Horn on the same day, the passengers of the *B. L. Allen* making a landing on Horn Island. The *Allen* carried twenty passengers and a crew of nine men. The passage cost each man \$125. Constantine McKenzie found a permanent home in California, at last meeting an untimely fate in Jan. 1896 in a lonely gulch in the mountains. No one knows the exact manner of his death, but his remains were found in the ruins of a burned log cabin and it was supposed that robbers had committed the fell crime. Alfred McKenzie is now living in Peabody and Nathaniel Foster lives in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich.

The early 50's saw a number of Topsfield men start for the Golden Gate. Ariel Gould, who afterwards carried on a large butchering business in town; Peter Creelman, a Scotchman who lived on what is now the Webster place; Emerson P. Gould, who afterwards enlisted in the army and died in a hospital at Baton Rouge, La.; Charles Foster, who lived just over the line in Boxford; John Brown Lake, who returned home after reaching Panama; Dean Perley, who now lives in Danvers and is engaged in the blacksmith business; Gorham Scribner, David Lake, the principal of this journal and David G. Lake his son, were among the number. David Lake, Jr., was the son of David and Sally Lake. He was born in Topsfield in 1807, and married first Lucy Putnam

Gould, second, Harriet Wilkins of Middleton. His children were David G., who went to California in 1854 and is now living in Peabody; Henry W., now living in Topsfield; George W., living in Nagasaki, Japan; Sarah H., married Wm Garrett, lives at the old homestead; Edward, in business at Nagasaki, Japan.

His California journals and correspondence are here arranged in the form of a personal narrative though not confined to his exact phraseology.

NARRATIVE.

It was on Monday morning, February 2nd, 1852, that I left home bound for California. William H. Balch drove me to Salem, for the Newburyport railroad had not been built. We reached Salem at about 12 o'clock and after waiting about the station until after one o'clock I asked the depot master when the train would arrive. He said he didn't know, it should have arrived an hour before. As the train for New York left the Worcester depot in Boston at 3 o'clock, it looked rather discouraging for me, but Balch went to Leavitt's stable and had a fresh horse harnessed and we put for Boston. The travelling was bad but we reached the depot at five minutes before three, so I had just time to get my ticket and put my baggage aboard. At New Haven I found John Brown Lake who had left Topsfield the previous day, and in New York we found Myles and Charles Sweeney of Boston who were known in Topsfield and afterwards lived there.

We arrived in New York after

midnight, and the next morning purchased our tickets for Chagres, the port on this side of the Isthmus of Panama, sailing at one o'clock on the steamer *Crescent City*, the decks crowded with men bound for California. Not a great deal happened of interest on the voyage. At first a good many were sea sick of course, but after reaching the Gulf stream the weather was fine and we enjoyed the voyage. The fare was good, generally beef and pork with bread and coffee for breakfast; for dinner beef, boiled beans and bread, and boiled rice, boiled in grease I should think. When supper time came around we had bread and butter and apple sauce with plenty of hot tea. We were divided off into messes of one hundred each. The third day out a man was killed by the crank of the engine. He died instantly. His neck was broken and his head badly crushed. They threw the body overboard without much ceremony. The last part of the voyage we got but two meals a day, but as it was hot, and not being able to exercise very much, it was all we needed. One day one of the waiters, a young fellow, was punished for insulting some of the passengers. He was taken to the hurricane deck and his hands were tied to the railing. Then the mate took the hose and gave him a soaking. The captain was present.

We reached the harbor of Chagres on Sunday morning. The steamer had to anchor about two miles from the shore and we were taken to the landing in small boats. As soon as we reached land a bargain was made with some native boatmen and about noon we started in a small boat up

the Chagres river bound for Panama, making about twenty miles that afternoon. Early the next morning we were off again and at night had arrived within six miles of Gorgona. We slept in the boat as we had the previous night and in the morning with about 200 others, started on foot for Gorgona, with two Indian boys as guides. The current of the river was very rapid at this point and the boatmen could only take our baggage, so there was nothing to do but walk. Our sail up the river was very pleasant, the flowers were so bright and everything looked so green. We saw several small alligators sunning themselves on the trunks of trees as they lay in the water. On the tramp to Gorgona the guides lost their way twice and we were pretty tired on reaching the town.

After breakfasting, mules were hired to carry us to Panama, about twenty-five miles further on. We were nearly nine hours in going and the road was the worst thing called a road that I ever saw in my life. It was nothing but a narrow path. Sometimes the banks on each side were higher than my head and only wide enough for one mule to pass through. The first part of the road was composed of water, stones and mud—mostly mud. The mule would first pitch me on to his neck; then his hind feet sinking deeply into the mud would throw me back towards his tail and every now and then he would suddenly lie down and bring me up standing in mud half way up to my knees.

Finally reaching Panama we put up at the California House. The

rate was \$1.50 per day. Our party consisted of Myles and Charles Sweeney, Peter Creelman, John Brown Lake and myself. While looking round for a passage up the coast we decided to board ourselves and so took part of our baggage and started for the woods, locating about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Panama, near a small brook. We built a shanty with the branches of trees, a very comfortable shelter. There were hundreds of just such cabins all around us.

Panama was a miserable looking place. The buildings were very old and a great many of them tumbling down. The drinking water was very poor. All the wells were dry and water had to be brought on mule back from some distance. In wandering around one day I came across the ruins of the old city of Panama which I found out was destroyed by Spanish pirates more than two hundred years ago. On some of the crumbling walls were trees that had grown to a diameter of five or six feet. There was an arched gateway some forty feet high, and ruins of stone fountains and baths.

Near our camp were a great many Indians. They were a shiftless lot. The women did the washing for the inhabitants of Panama. It was a great sight to see them on the banks of the brook washing clothes, having only a small piece of cloth tied around their hips. The men, or the greater number of them, were as lightly clad, while the children never wore anything. One day an Indian woman came up near our cabin without the least thing on and dove into the water in front of quite a crowd.

She swam under water a longer distance than I ever saw anybody before.

But we didn't expect on starting for California to spend our time waiting around Panama. The gold fever had brought an immense number of men from the States and the few steamers and sailing vessels on the Pacific coast couldn't begin to furnish a sufficient number of passages. Several sailing vessels were in the bay and the steamer Tennessee as well, but she was a mail steamer and would only take passengers having tickets sold via the mail line. The prospect was discouraging and after waiting about for nearly two weeks, John Brown Lake and Samuel Goodell, who was from Boxford and arrived shortly after we did, became faint hearted and announced that they were going home. I was sorry to part with them, but they couldn't be shaken from their purpose, so February 25th they started back across the Isthmus, carrying with them many messages to the loved ones at home.

The days dragged slowly by until finally, early in March, I secured a passage in the bark Emily, Capt. Hervy. The Sweenys went on the Clarissa Andrews, sailing a few days after I did. There were about 200 of us on board and the food was at first sufficient and in a way satisfactory, but the supply of water soon became reduced. When we started each man's ration per day was $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of water, a pint of coffee, a pint of beef tea, plenty of pork, about half a pound of bread and half a pound of flour which we made into duff, nothing more or less than flour

mixed in water and boiled in a bag. But before long supplies began to run short and the latter part of May the daily ration was a quart of water, five table-spoonfuls of flour, three ounces of bread, a pint of rice and three table-spoonfuls of sugar. Not a very large amount of eatables for a hungry man. To be sure salt beef could be had, but with so little water we found we had better stop eating it as a hollow stomach was preferable to a burning thirst.

On the 28th of May we reached Massanilla on the Mexican coast and put in for provisions. The natives came off to our vessel in boats made of the butt of a tree. The town wasn't much of a place; only about thirty native huts. After staying here two days we sailed for San Blas, 180 miles farther up the coast, arriving there on the afternoon of June 9th. Fourteen vessels lay at anchor in the bay and the view along the shore line was magnificent. About the town was a collection of native huts, simple affairs roofed with grass and palm branches, but the natives of the better classes, Spaniards and Mexicans, lived and dressed much as we do, save that all had a fancy for bright colors. The men went about with a richly hued blanket hanging over one shoulder. Sometimes for a change a hole would be cut in the centre and the blanket would hang broad before and behind. All wore broad brimmed hats.

At San Blas some ninety of our passengers left, each receiving \$15 passage money from the captain, and went on board a bark lying in the bay bound for California. Those of us who were left didn't feel sorry

over their departure for it gave us more and better accommodations. We little thought as we saw them sail out to sea that more than a month would elapse before we got away from that half dead and alive Mexican settlement.

When we reached San Blas the supply of provisions on the Emily was nearly exhausted, and we had not been there very long when it came out that Capt. Hervey hadn't money to buy enough more to take us to California. After making some arrangements on shore whereby we were supplied with fresh cow beef and coarse bread every day, he started for Tepic, a town about 40 miles inland, where the United States consul lived, to try and raise money on the vessel. The cargo of the Emily consisted of about 500 tons of coal and that was really the only thing that saved us. Coal was in demand on the coast and brought a good price at Acapulco, where the steamers made a landing. The captain didn't want to give up his vessel into the consul's hands for the benefit of the passengers and so made several propositions to committees we sent to see him. There were two or three other vessels near by and one of them wanted to take us up the coast, so Capt. Hervey drew up a subscription paper and passed it around. All he could raise was \$1020, not enough with what he already had to charter the vessel, so that fine plan went up in smoke. Finally after wearisome delays the consul took possession of the Emily and advanced us \$37 apiece indemnity, the value of the coal. A committee was then appointed to charter a vessel and after

more delays they reported that the captain of the brig Archibald Gracia would take us for \$40 a head. That meant \$500 more than the coal would bring, and we attempted to raise it, but \$400 was all we had. After more negotiations somebody paid the \$100. I think it must have been Capt. Hervey.

Capt. Peters of the Archibald Gracia hired three or four native huts and July 18th we left the Emily for good. Instead of receiving daily rations we were given a loaf of bread and twenty cents each to purchase provisions. I went to the baker's every night and bought good warm bread or cakes. There were two bake-houses but they would only bake at just such times. They were an awfully lazy set. Might have sold three times as much bread as they did if they would only bake it. For that matter I couldn't see what supported the natives, anyway, for they never seemed to do any work.

There were three butchers in San Blas and the sign they hung out was a red flag. I was interested in the way in which they cut up their beef. They would hang up a quarter and beginning on the leg cut down the whole length in narrow strips. What little meat was left on the bone was dried and called jerked beef. Beef was worth 12 cents a pound and pork the same. About a pint of the smallest potatoes I ever saw brought $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents. Flour was worth \$12.00 per hundred pounds, and coffee was sold done up in small papers, about three teaspoonfuls for $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents. The women appeared to do about all the business,

tending store, buying provisions, etc.

Sunday was the same as any other day in the week. The shops all kept open. There was a Catholic church about two miles away from the town, but I couldn't find out that they ever had any service.

There was a tavern in the place kept by an Englishman, who had married a Mexican woman. She was enormously stout, and must have weighed 300 pounds. Near the tavern were a few very large shade trees and on a branch of one of them I carved my full name and the town I came from.

Not far off were the ruins of an old castle and near by was a new one only half completed. It was situated on a very high hill from which there was a splendid view of the bay and the river winding its way back into the country. Pious Catholics had erected a shrine at the foot of the hill, with an altar and crucifix, ornamented with candles and flowers.

Fourth of July we had spent on board the Emily. All the celebration I saw was a sunrise and sunset gun on board the American bark with colors flying all day. My thoughts went back to the old home in Topsfield, and I wondered if my boys had got their fire crackers and were enjoying themselves. We were in particularly hard lines about that time. Nothing was cooked for us save tea night and morning, but as there was plenty of rice aboard we boiled that and got along as best we could with only two cooking stoves among 150 men. The man who got his rice on the stove first was the best fellow.

Early on the morning of the 27th of July we went on board the Archi-

bald Gracia and just after sunrise sailed out into the bay. Nearly 200 passengers were on board; 152 coming on the *Emily*, 16 more from Mazatlan on the *Archibald* and about 20 from a vessel that had been condemned at Massanilla. The captain had his wife with him. She was a Mexican and it was reported, very wealthy. There were several other Mexican passengers, one having his fifteen year old wife with him.

The brig carried two bulls and seventy-five pigs to help out on the provisions. At first we fared very well with soup made of jerked beef; boiled beans and potatoes; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of bread, with coffee, tea and $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of water per day. The second Sunday out one of the bulls was killed and we had bull-beef soup for dinner. The weather was pleasant and we made Cape St. Lucas on the southern California coast on Aug. 14th. On the thirteenth day out we were given only a pint of water and a little beef soup. There was a good deal of sickness on board, over sixty being on the doctor's list ill with dysentery or fever and ague. A great many suffered from lack of water, and for three days in succession I gave my allowance to some sick men. My health was excellent considering the surroundings, for which I was very thankful, for the sick suffered greatly from lack of water and proper nourishment. They had the same allowance of food as we well men, but no medicine, for the small supply on board was soon exhausted. The water allowance was cut down again on the 18th, and my dinner that day consisted of ten little pig potatoes and a piece of jerked beef about as

large as two fingers. The next night a young man from New Jersey named William Little, who had shared my berth and was one of our mess, died of dysentery. The body was tossed over the side after a short burial service. It was a most revolting sight to see the sick passengers crawling about the decks, pale and yellow as death, mere walking skeletons. Some had very sore mouths, and could eat our coarse fare only with difficulty. A few days later the water ration was cut down again, this time to only a pint daily, with no tea or coffee. Our dinner that day was ten small pig potatoes, and a small raw onion. They told us that our supper would be what we could get, and that was all we did get—absolutely nothing, and so the days dragged slowly by. Capt. Peters had expressed great surprise at our treatment on the *Emily*, when the *Archibald Gracia* was chartered, but he had now proved himself a two faced villain. The water and provisions taken aboard on our account were of poor quality and insufficient for even thirty days. We didn't reach San Francisco until Sept. 11th, spending forty-seven days in his starving pen. Toward the latter part of the voyage drinking water became almost priceless; a junk bottle full was worth a dollar. Many a dollar have I seen spent for water, dollars that were needed badly enough when California was finally reached. I remember one day I was fortunate enough to get a bone a sailor was about throwing overboard. It was salt pork freshened somewhat, and had a little meat clinging to it. After eating all I

dared, I gave it to a young man near me. How he thanked me—I remember it even now. Nothing but the bone remained when he had finished. At last land was sighted, a most welcome sight and with it came an extra pint of water for each, but a small amount when a man was as dry and faint as we were. The weather fortunately had been cool or our sufferings would have been intense.

On the afternoon of the 11th of September we sailed through the capes into the Bay of San Francisco and the next morning landed, grateful that our lives had been spared. Health officers came aboard and took off thirteen men who were unable to help themselves and carried them off to some hospital. I never learned how many recovered, most of them, no doubt. We were all barely able to move about, mere skeletons. I could easily clasp one hand around my ankle. For the last fourteen days of the voyage we had had no bread and but a pint of water a day, nothing but pig potatoes and a little pork to keep soul and body together.

I kept a list of those who died and were thrown overboard on the two vessels, the Emily and the Archibald Gracia. The list is of interest and may be historically valuable. One case in particular struck me as singular. Leonard Batchelder and Albert Kathern, both from the same town in Vermont, were great friends, always together, sleeping in the same berth. Strong fellows born and bred in the country, the hardships of the voyage were too much for them. They died on the same day, the 21st of August. The bodies lay side by

side on the deck, the burial service was read, and all that was mortal sank into the waves far away from home and among strangers.

List of those who died on board the brig Emily between Panama and San Blas, and on the brig Archibald Gracia between San Blas and San Francisco in the year 1852.

DIED.	NAME.	STATE.	AGE.
Mar. 16,	Julius Bailey,	North Carolina,	17
17,	H. F. Gatt,	Georgia,	23
17,	Clifford Stone,	Georgia,	20
20,	Alfred Drake,	Wisconsin,	28
23,	James Hickey,	Louisiana,	21
27,	Daniel B. Reed,	Georgia,	23
Apr. 6,	James White,	Vermont,	24
12,	Ira Norton,	Georgia,	25
12,	George W. Myers,	Georgia,	20
19,	Adolphus Stone,	Georgia,	23
May 2,	Thomas Roberts,	Indiana,	19
9,	Smith Shelding,	New York,	—
11,	Rancillier Van Deusen,	N. Y.	28
12,	Orlin Burnham,	New York,	25
13,	Cornelius Rowe,	Ohio,	52
28,	James M. Anderson,	Georgia,	26
June 2,	Paul Storks,	Georgia,	36
14,	Joseph Lemanse,	Georgia,	52
26,	Anthony —,	North Carolina,	—
Aug. 6,	James McKinney,	Louisiana,	26
7,	Antonio Ring,	San Blas,	20
11,	Chas. E. Reed,	Boston, Mass.	22
15,	Samuel H. Heath,	Georgia,	42
16,	Frederick Brown,	Ohio,	22
19,	Henry Claus,	Ohio,	23
19,	James F. Copeling,	Georgia,	35
19,	Burnet Dyre,	Upper Canada,	40
20,	Leonard L. Small,	Maine,	22
20,	William Little,	New Jersey,	20
21,	Leonard Batchelder,	Vt.,	36
21,	Albert Kathern,	Vermont,	23
22,	Gager Roberts,	Georgia,	19
33,	Hallet Lanning,	Indiana,	24
26,	James Rafferty,	New York,	23
27,	Absalom Finley,	Georgia,	32
31,	David Taylor,	New Jersey,	27
Sept. 3,	William McCatchings,	Ga.,	18

The day we landed I found near the wharf Capt. Wm. Morgan who afterwards lived in Topsfield and married Miss Ellen Kimball, daughter of William E. Kimball. He told

me where I could find my wife's cousin, Wm. Wallace Wilkins, who was from Middleton. He was living about twenty miles south from San Francisco, carrying on a farm called Bolemus Ranch. There was no way of getting there except by water, so I thought myself fortunate in finding a boat going down the coast that very day. William was glad to see me, and as it was said to be unhealthy in the mining camps at that season of the year he told me to stay with him and work what little I could on the ranch, and so I did, for nearly three months, slowly gaining in flesh and strength.

Game was plentiful and our farm products brought big prices in the San Francisco markets. Eggs were worth \$1.50 a dozen and butter the same price per pound. Potatoes brought four cents a pound, beans eight cents, and milk easily sold at thirty-seven cents a quart.

But gold dust was what I was after, and as my strength came back I grew anxious to try my luck in the camps, so early in December I said good-bye to Bolemus Ranch and started for Sacramento city. When I arrived, there was but little of the city left, for a fire had swept away everything but a few scattering buildings a few days before. A large number of temporary buildings were going up and everything was in confusion. It was the dirtiest and muddiest place I had ever seen. The river was high and a levee along the bank was the only thing that prevented an inundation.

From Sacramento City I started on foot for Mormon Island, a mining camp on the south fork of the Amer-

ican river. The settlement comprised some twenty-five fair sized frame buildings, and hundreds of miner's huts built of a few pieces of joist or straight limbs of trees stuck into the ground and then covered with canvas. It was a curious mixture of nationalities gathered in that mining camp. Men from all over the United States, with a good many foreigners. Chinese were there and passed up and down daily from the settlements up the river, while a few digger Indians hung around the taverns. They were an ugly looking lot. I was told they burnt their dead as an emblem of mourning, afterwards using the ashes mixed with the sap of the pine tree as a paint to daub on their faces. I saw several Indian women so decorated.

It was the rainy season and mining at that time of year meant exposure with much hardship. Fortunately a good berth turned up at a tavern kept by a man named Jarvis where I earned my board and forty dollars a month until the following spring. One Sunday afternoon the latter part of April, I took a walk down the river to a place called Brown's ravine, and happened to find a man there washing for gold. We talked mining and I soon struck up a bargain for a cradle and a right to work in his claim. The next day came my first actual experience in gold mining. It was slow work washing out the dust. The first two weeks I earned a little over \$32, it costing me about fifty cents a day for provisions, but I soon grew more skillful and by July the weekly average was about \$30. Some weeks

it would be nearly \$50, and one day early in August I washed out dust that brought \$12.75. I continued successful, having better luck than any of the men around me. Skill I called it, for I had bought a claim that was considered of little value and yet was washing out more gold a day than any of the other miners at the Island. My claim was on top of a hill back of our cabin. Water came from a spring near the top and was diverted to flow over a ledge into sluice boxes where the gravel was washed and the particles of gold separated. It was monotonous work, the day's labor beginning at sunrise and lasting until darkness came down upon us.

Life at the Island offered usually but little excitement. I saw but little of the gambling and rioting said to be associated with mining life. Once in a while an accident would happen, timbers giving away in some shaft, with broken limbs as a result, and sometimes a poor miner buried alive. Theft of course was not unknown, but when caught the miners were not particularly careful how they handled the thief. One day two fellows who stole \$200, from a sick man were lashed with knotted ropes until their backs were raw and streaming with blood, then taken before a justice who sent them to Sacramento jail. One of the rogues died from the effects of the whipping. Another time a negro stole eleven dollars from a miner's cabin. In some way it was discovered that he committed the theft and after a barrel head hearing of the evidence, a rope was brought and in no time the poor devil was swinging from the

limb of a tree near at hand. Murderers were treated to the same medicine. A Spaniard stabbed a man in the side one afternoon as the result of a quarrel. The miner lived only a few hours, dying at about five o'clock. Twenty minutes later the Spaniard was hanging lifeless from the limb of a tree. Lynch law, you will say. True, but in some respects better than the long drawn out trial in Massachusetts, where the lawyer pleads insanity and after hunting up evidence in proof, the murderer is finally sent to an insane asylum, in time to become cured and turned loose again on society.

New men from the States frequently reached the Island, many of them expecting to find fortunes waiting for them and when realizing the difficulties in the way wishing themselves safely home again.

The following list of prices prevailed at Mormon Island in June, 1853.

Flour,	per pound,	.09
Lard,	"	.32
Beans,	"	.12½
Butter,	"	.60
Sugar,	"	.15
Salmon,	"	.10
Onions,	"	.50
Potatoes,	"	.15
Pork steak,	"	.75
Eggs,	per dozen,	\$3.00
Milk,	per quart,	.25
Newspapers,	each,	12½

David Lake abandoned mining in 1855, and returned home early in the Fall, via the Isthmus. Of the return trip I can learn nothing, there being no written account, but the motives for the homeward journey are shown

to have been unsettled business matters at home, and ill health, brought about by a fractured hip resulting from an accidental fall while mining. Mr. Lake lived on his farm in Topsfield until the Spring of 1859, when the old liking for the yellow dust caused him to start out again bound for California. April 15th found him on the steamer St. Louis, off the harbor of Aspinwall. A hurriedly penciled note, the last message his family ever received, told them he was about landing, and spoke of a slight illness that had overtaken him the previous day. This caused no alarm at the time, but as the weeks and months rolled by and the mails brought no news from across the continent, the conviction slowly grew upon them that a second letter would never be received, that sickness and death had crossed his path. The captain of the Pacific steamer when questioned in San Francisco by a friend of the family, told of Mr. Lake's death on the first day out from Panama. He had crossed the Isthmus only to find a sailor's grave in the blue waters of the Pacific.



The Howlett Mills.

WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THE HOBBS FAMILY IN TOPSFIELD.

By MARIETTA CLARKE.

The date of the erection of Howlett's gristmill may be placed, as nearly as can be ascertained from the records, between the years of 1738 and 1740. The sawmill was built some two or three years later. There is a tradition that a gristmill was located there much earlier than the above named date. The old mill is said to have been some distance back of the present one, at a bend in the brook directly opposite the site of William Howlett's house. I am also told that the conformation of the channel seems to indicate that there might have been at some time a dam farther back than the present one.

This is only hearsay and conjecture, but I have positive proof from old deeds that there were mills here of some kind, previous to the date above given. I quote the following from a deed given by William Howlett to his son Thomas Howlett dated July 30, 1709: "To my son Thomas Howlett, all that my farm, messuage or tenement on which I myself and my said son dwells. All which said tracts of land, whether pasturage, tillage, woodland or meadow ground on these bounds contained, together with all the buildings or dwelling houses, barns, outhouses, wells, springs, watercourses, fences, *mills*, trees, etc." Also from another deed given by William Howlett to his nephew John Howlett, dated May 21, 1715: "Convey all the said tracts of

land with all the buildings, dwelling houses, barns, outhouses, fences, *mills*, trees, etc." There is no mention of "mills" in Ensign Howlett's will dated 1677. They were therefore probably erected at some time between that date and 1709 by William Howlett.

Tradition further claims that these mills fell into disuse on account of trouble about flowing the meadows in the vicinity. This would seem to be confirmed by the following deposition given in one of Benjamin Hobbs' numerous lawsuits which also fixes, as nearly as can be ascertained, the date of erection of the present mill. Deposition: Dec. 20, 1803. "I, Mary Potter of Ipswich, in the county of Essex, widow, of lawful age, do testify that when I was about eighteen years of age, I was at a place called Howlett's in the town of Topsfield, in said county, where Mr. Hobbs' mill now stands, which was about sixty-five years ago, at which time there was no mill where Hobbs' mill now stands according to the best of my recollection." She also states that her brother, Elisha Cummings, then 85 years of age, was about twenty-five when the sawmill was built, and that the cornmill was erected some two or three years previous, both first owned by Thomas Howlett.

I have in my possession the first deed of these mills, given by Thomas Howlett to Nathaniel Hood, July 22,

1746. As it seems to me both an interesting and valuable historical document, I quote from it at length. "I, Thomas Howlett, of Topsfield, in Consideration of Eight hundred pounds to me paid by Nathaniel Hood, Housewright, Have given, etc., a Certain Tract of Land with a Corn Mill and Saw Mill Standing upon it and Containing by Estimation Six acres be it more or be it less, and bounded as followeth, Beginning at the South westerly Corner of the Bridge which is below the Mills Called Howlett's Bridge, thence westerly to a Stake and Stones on the Southerly side of both roads and about one pole and a half Southwesterly from the Little bridge near Tho. Howlett's house, thence Northwesterly about Ten poles to a Stake Standing about one pole from the middle of the road Leading from Capt. Perkinses to Ipswich, from thence to Capt Tobijah Perkins his land, having one pole from the middle of ye road on the Southerly Side all along to ye fence in said perkins Line, thence northeasterly with sd perkins Land till it Comes to the Brook then Crossing the Brook by sd Perkinses Line till it Comes to mr. Burleys Land, then Southerly by sd Burleys Land to the northerly End of the Mill Dam, thence southerly about five or six Pole to an Elm Tree Standing on the northeasterly Side of the Brook, from thence to the Bounds first mentioned. To Have and to hold, etc.—

Thomas Howlett

Lydia Howlett

I have good reason to believe that the land here deeded to Nathaniel Hood is the same six acres which, in 1651, was granted by the town to

Ensign Thomas Howlett "wheare the said Ensigne have built his house." But in this deed there is no mention of any dwelling house, and Thomas Howlett is living on what was afterwards the Robinson place. I therefore conclude that he took advantage of the clause in his father's will which stated that "my son Thomas shall have liberty to pull down and carry away the newest end of my now dwelling house," and allowed the old part to go to decay.

I have tried to conjecture how it happened that this old deed should be in our possession and have thought it probable that Nathaniel Hood lived with Andrew Burley on what is now our farm while his own house was building. For Nathaniel Hood did build a house, as we ascertain from a deed afterwards given to Abraham Hobbs and dated 1749. Nathaniel Hood, who was a grandson of Richard, the first Hood who came into these parts, and an uncle, twice removed, of our esteemed townsman S. D. Hood, Esq., therefore lived here and owned the mill three years. By this second deed the owner reserves to himself "one half of the Saw Mill with Half the Saw Mill Tools & also Convenient yard room for the use of His part in sd Saw mill, it is also to be understood that the said Hood & his Heirs is to maintain a quarter part of the Dam now in being belonging to the said Mills, it is further to be understood ye sd Hood for Himself and Heirs doth Reserve Half the Stream leading to the Saw Mill, also the Dwelling House & Orchard Standing thereon." This dwelling house referred to must be the present

Perkins house. I am told that the frame of this house plainly shows that it was built at three different times. The east part is the oldest, therefore we conclude that this part was erected by Nathaniel Hood and must be about 150 years old.

The deed above referred to, dated March 25, 1749, gives us the date of Abraham Hobbs' first appearance in this part of the town. Henceforth the history of the Hobbs' is the history of the neighborhood. I have therefore endeavored to find out as much as possible about the family.

Jonathan Hobbs is said to be the first Hobbs who came to Ipswich. From him it is supposed that the Abraham who descended who married Susanna Abbott and lived in Hamilton. His son baptized Apr. 24, 1720 is the Abraham who married Sarah Brown of Ipswich, May 15, 1738 and afterwards came to Topsfield. Tradition claims that he had twelve children who were named after the twelve tribes of Israel. This, however, is not quite correct. We find recorded the births of ten children, all having good old Bible names. They were Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Joseph, Benjamin, David and Jonathan, Sarah, Elizabeth and Susanna. Of Isaac, Jacob and Joseph we know little except like other people they were born, married and died. The names of the other sons are found in many deeds and records.

The next deed of the mill, in order of time, is given by Abraham Hobbs to Arthur Browne, Feb. 25, 1752. Lydia Howlett, left a widow by the death of her husband Thomas in 1746, married Arthur Browne in

1751. The deed is as follows: "In consideration of the sum of four hundred seventy and five pounds to me in hand well and truly paid by Arthur Browne Clothier, I have given etc., one half of a certain Corn Mill and one quarter of a certain Saw mill being the same mills which Mr. Thomas Howlett dec'd once sold unto Mr. Nathaniel Hood: together with half of the Corn Mill and a quarter part of the saw mill Tools, also a proportionable part of the Dam and Stream belonging to said Mills."

May 5, 1758, we find the following paragraph in the will of Arthur Browne: "I, Arthur Browne, miller, being about to go into His Majesty's Service, give unto my well beloved wife Lydia Browne all my estate both real and personal to be at her own disposal forever."

Extract from inventory of his estate. "To half a corn mill and a quarter of a saw mill. A negro girl."

When Nathaniel Hood and Mrs. Lydia Browne made over their rights in the mill to Abraham Hobbs I have not been able to ascertain, but they probably simply gave quit claim deeds which were not recorded.

In 1767 Abraham Hobbs purchases of the heirs of Thomas Cummings the farm afterwards known as the Robinson farm. The first recorded deed of this place is given by the heirs of Thomas Howlett to Thomas Cummings May 6, 1763. "In consideration of the sum of two hundred sixty seven pounds six shillings convey etc: a certain tract or parcel of upland and meadow containing about thirty nine acres be the same more or less with ye Buildings there-

on situated in Topsfield afores'd bounded beginning at a Stake with Stones about at ye Northerly Corner, said Stake standing one Rod from the Highway thence southwesterly by Land of sd Thomas Howlett and Ammie Howlett about Sixty Pole to a Stake thence southeasterly by Land of Lieut. Luke Averill and sd Thomas Cummings and by land of John Lamson & William and Stephen Brown thence by land of Pelatiah Cummings Easterly to the River thence Northerly and Northwesterly by ye River and by Land of Abraham Hobbs to the Bounds first mentioned."

The second deed of this place given by the heirs of Thomas Cummings to Abraham Hobbs Apr. 21, 1767, gives the bounds of another piece of land making the whole amount conveyed at this time about fifty four acres.

It is probable that the senior Abraham now took up his abode on the new farm, as his eldest son Abraham was already married. His wife was Elizabeth Cummings and his children Elizabeth, Lydia, Salome, Abraham, Lydia, Hannah, Dolle, Polly and Susanna. Isaac, the second son, was also married to Susanna Smith, May 13, 1766, and his children were Sarah, Elijah, Priscilla, Isaac, Priscilla, Elizabeth. Munson, Samuel, Susanna and Humphrey. They could hardly have all lived in the Perkins house even if the west part had been added, as it perhaps was at about this time.

We find Abraham Hobbs now owning the mill and two farms with doubtless many outlying pieces of land. He was also held in some

esteem in town, as he was selectman in 1771 and '72, and representative to the State legislature in 1779, 1783-85.

In 1782 he begins to deed his property to his sons. The first deed is a deed of the Perkins place and the mills to his son Benjamin. "In consideration of three hundred and thirty eight pounds silver money to me in hand well and truly paid me by Benjamin Hobbs of Topsfield—cordwainer—do convey unto the said Benj. Hobbs all the dwelling-house & one half of all the land and one half of all the buildings on the land hereafter mentioned to be divided equally according to quantity and quality."

Apr. 29, 1785 a companion deed is given to Abraham Hobbs, jun. and Philip Mackenzie: "Convey unto the said Abraham Hobbs & Philip Mackenzie the other half of all the lands, tenements & buildings thereon of what I sold to my son Benjamin Hobbs."

May 4, 1785 a deed was given by Abraham Hobbs to Abraham Hobbs jun. of one half of the farm he had bought of Thomas Cummings.

By a deed of the same date the other half of this farm was conveyed to another son, Jonathan Hobbs.

About this time the sixth son, David Hobbs, comes into full possession of the Averill place. I have been unable to find any deed given to him, and am obliged to base my dates upon tradition. Mr. Austin Averill tells me that his grandmother, the wife of Solomon Averill, was a granddaughter of Joseph Cummings. When she was eighteen years of age she came to live with her grandfather

on the hill. She remained there two or three years and while there came to the raising of the present Averill barn, by David Hobbs. She died in 1851, being 85 years of age. It is rather a roundabout way to get at it, but it fixes the date of the raising of the barn at about 1785 or '86. Probably the house was built first, and therefore these buildings would be something like 110 years old. We presume also that David Hobbs dug the well by the roadside. There is still an old fashioned well sweep here. Modern pipes are convenient but they do not improve the taste of the water. If you wish to prove this, on some hot day in summer when you are weary and thirsty, stop and get a drink of the finest water to be found anywhere in this vicinity.

March 26, 1792 Benjamin Hobbs becomes sole owner of the Perkins place and the mills, receiving at that time a deed from his brother Abraham, of his share in this property, having received five years before a similar deed from Philip Mackenzie. Two years previous, Apr. 20, 1790, Jonathan Hobbs gives a deed of his half of the Robinson place to his brother Abraham, who already owned the other half.

We now have distinctly a Hobbs neighborhood, owned by the three brothers, Abraham, Benjamin and David. Mr. Samuel Mackenzie used to tell me there were so many Hobbs' here that the place was called the City of the Hobbs'. As they passed away their name was dropped, but the term "City" still remains.

Mr. David Hobbs married Rhoda Cummings Apr. 20, 1774. His children were David, Lucy, Nabby,

Rhoda and George. His eldest son David married Sally Perkins 1799, and his children were David, Moses and David Cummings Hobbs. A few months previous to his marriage, Dec. 18, 1798, he purchased the present Bell place of Charles Davis. I have endeavored to trace the ownership of this place as far back as possible, and find that it was in the possession of Nathaniel Low in 1748. The first deed I found was given by Nathaniel Low to Samuel Low and John Bradstreet, June 9, 1753.

Apr. 9, 1726 a deed is given by John Bradstreet to Samuel Low "of the one half of a certain Parcel of Land lying in Topsfield which they formerly bought together of Nathaniel Low of Topsfield."

Samuel Low gives a deed of this homestead to Charles Davis Feb. 26, 1787.

Of the three Hobbs brothers previously referred to, I think I have heard the most about Benjamin. I am told that he used to sit in the door of the mill and compose poetry, an example which I recommend to the present miller. The only scrap of his verse which I have been able to obtain runs as follows:

"Now from the high and lofty hill
I see the meadows dressed in green,
The winding river gently flows
The everlasting hills between."

Nothing very remarkable, to be sure, but it shows that Benjamin had a poetical soul; he also, according to report, was considerably belligerent, and his law suits were numerous. He quarrelled with Jacob Peabody about the mill-dam, and with my grandfather about the boundary line

between their farms. It is related that they disputed about the possession of the willows by the brookside. My grandfather claimed them and cut them down, whereupon the redoubtable Benjamin hauled them away under cover of the darkness. This gave rise to more poetry attributed to a great aunt of mine, Ann Clarke. It is not at all in the style of Anne Bradstreet, but nevertheless may not be without interest to the unregenerate mind:—

“There was a miller I knew once,

And he took double toll,

I'd not be in that miller's place

For all his weight in gold.

A poor man cut some willows down

To make himself a fire,

The miller hauled the trees away,

Which made the poor man swear.”

Benjamin Hobbs was thrice married, first to Mary Friend of Wenham, published Nov. 2, 1771; second, to Mrs. Melitable Searle of Rowley, published May 20, 1804 and third, to Mrs. Mary Jane Fuller of Salem, Feb. 25, 1812. He had only one son, Daniel, born Apr. 25, 1779. It is said that Mr. Hobbs was very proud of this son's strength, and would put the heaviest grists upon his back in order to show to those who came to the mill how he could lift and what feats he could perform. This in time caused a terrible deformity and in his later years he was unable to walk. The old people say that he went upon all fours and hopped like a toad. He came in once to make a call upon my grandmother, who felt herself in rather an embarrassing position, as she was in the habit of asking her callers to sit

down, but did not know as this one could sit down.

Daniel Hobbs married Hannah Friend Apr. 20, 1802. In a deed dated May 26, 1804, his father Benjamin Hobbs conveys to him “in consideration of two thousand dollars one half of all my real estate with the westerly part of the dwelling house and also the whole of the land that the store stands upon with all the privileges thereto belonging.”

The building here designated as the store was built by Benjamin Hobbs for his son, as on account of his deformity he was unable to do the harder work of the farm and mill. It is said that he used to spring up on the counter like a rat. It has been made into a house within my recollection and was occupied by Miss Mary Jane Perkins until her death.

Abraham Hobbs gives to Abraham Hobbs, jun., a deed of half the Cummings farm, dated Jan. 14, 1809. About this time the old house, probably the first house upon the place, caught fire from an overturned lamp and was utterly consumed. The present house was soon erected, probably during the same year, making the old Robinson house, as we call it, about 88 years old.

In 1810 I find the first record of the connection of Benjamin Hobbs and John Mackenzie. This is a deed from the former to the latter of “one undivided moiety of all the lands and real estate and personal property belonging to said Benjamin.”

In the same year also “I, Benjamin Hobbs, miller, have constituted, etc., John Mackenzie of Lynn, wheelwright, to be my lawful attorney for

me to receive of and from all and every person, etc., such money, debts, etc., as shall be payable or coming unto me the constituent by any means whatsoever, and I here assign, etc., to said John, all my personal Estate, all outstanding debts and demands and empower him to collect, receive and demand the same for his own use, giving him my full power and authority in the premises."

Still another deed is passed between the same parties, bearing date Feb. 7, 1812. "I Benjamin Hobbs, yeoman, in consideration of two thousand dollars paid by John Mackenzie of said Topsfield, wheelwright, give, grant and convey all my real and personal estate, to wit, one undivided moiety of all my homestead in said Topsfield with the buildings and mills thereon, etc."

Thus closely were the affairs of the Mackenzies and Hobbs intermixed. What trouble afterwards arose between them I do not know. In the course of my investigations I have found two instances where their interests conflicted.

I have already stated that Abraham Hobbs jun. received a deed from his father of half the Cummings farm in 1809. It seems this Abraham inherited the bellicose tendencies of his family. At or about this time John Mackenzie was tending the mill and associated with him was his brother William. He being of small stature, the stalwart Abraham thought him an easy prey and visited the mill one day in John's absence for the purpose of picking a quarrel with him. William defended himself as best he could and drew his antagonist farther and farther out

upon the bridge over the flume. There he managed to push or pull him over and soon both were struggling in the water. Here William had the advantage, as he could swim while Abraham could not, and soon reached the land. By this time John Mackenzie had appeared on the scene. William vowed that Hobbs might drown for all the help he would give him, but John sprang into the water, held up the drowning man's head and assisted him to land. Safely on land Abraham at once bestowed his blows upon the new comer. Here he had found his match in size and strength, but John, unwilling to fight, retreated up the hill, simply keeping his antagonist at bay. At length his Highland blood was roused, and by a well directed blow he felled Abraham to the earth, breaking two of his ribs. Then the numerous Hobbs family, who had been watching the battle from afar, came and bore away the helpless form of their fallen chieftain. Abraham Hobbs afterwards brought suit against the man who had saved his life, but for once law and justice were on the same side and John Mackenzie won the case, but agreed to remit the fine if Hobbs would leave the place. This he did, removing to Nottingham, N. H. After a while he returned and when he appeared again among his old neighbors they slyly whispered "Nottingham." This was exceedingly unpleasant to him but the name clung and thereafter he was always known as "Nottingham" Hobbs. I had heard Mr. Alfred Mackenzie speak of him by this name and supposing it to be his christian name, looked

through the records for "Nottingham" Hobbs in vain. When next I saw Mr. Mackenzie I stated my difficulty and he related to me the preceding story. I find that John Mackenzie afterwards had some trouble with Daniel Hobbs and recovered judgment against him for \$222 20, dated Aug. 1, 1812.

In March, 1813. Daniel Hobbs, Benjamin Hobbs and John Mackenzie give deeds of the mills and the adjacent farm to Moses Newman and Elisha Perkins.

Daniel Hobbs died May 28, 1814. Sept. 30, 1825. the senior Abraham Hobbs died in Topsfield poorhouse, aged about 85.

The following year his son, Abraham "Nottingham" Hobbs, gives a deed of the Robinson place,—the old Cummings farm—to David Hobbs, jun., and John Rea, jun., dated March 21. 1826.

Abraham Hobbs, David Hobbs, jun., and John Rea, jun. give a deed of the same farm to Moses Wildes, dated May 10, 1826.

Moses Wildes sells it to Joseph Adams March 10, 1829. and Joseph Adams to Benj. Robinson Apr. 15, 1842.

The Robinson family staid on the farm till 1874, since which time it has had four different owners.

The last Hobbs who lived upon this place, though I believe he had no ownership therein, was George Hobbs, a son of the first David. He it was who worked in the shop near the old schoolhouse and whose portrait was drawn upon the door by Mrs. Samuel Mackenzie, (see History of Mackenzie Family.) He was a blacksmith by trade and was always

called by the old people "Master George." His work was rude and bungling, yet strong and enduring. Often have I been told when viewing some household utensil with childish curiosity, "Oh, Master George made that." We have a mortar which at one time had an idea of splitting in two. The services of "Master George" were thereupon called in, and an iron hoop was placed around it big enough and strong enough to belt in a man-of-war, fastened also with a cunning device which would have been impossible to a person of ordinary mind. I think that mortar will outlast the centuries.

The father of "Master George," Mr. David, died at the present Averill place, Feb. 25, 1830. During his last years he was blind, a state of things, I am told, largely caused by undue indulgence in New England rum. His physician warned him that if he persisted in his course he would lose the use of his eyes. "Then farewell eyes" promptly responded the patient. And so he lived and died happy in the possession of that which in his view gave value to life.

The estate was sold by his second wife and widow Rebecca Card to Cyrus Averill, March 30, 1826. She then went to live with her stepson. David Hobbs, at the present Bell place, where she died Oct. 1, 1851 at the great age of 96 years.

This place was the last place owned by the Hobbs in our vicinity. There have been two houses on this farm, probably built by the two brothers Nathaniel and Samuel Low, when they owned the estate together, that is, it seems so from the deeds. The

cellar of one of these houses may still be seen, while the remaining house has the appearance of being very old. Like the Perkins' house it has had additions at different times, one part being made of one kind of wood, another part of a different kind and so on. Nathaniel Low owned here in 1747; very likely the beginning was made at that time, perhaps before.

I am told that interesting relics of the Hobbs family are still to be found here, various ancient articles, with tools and implements large enough for the use of giants.

And they do say that this last Hobbs house is haunted. It is a fact that a family left the house on account of the unexplainable noises heard therein. Doors opened noiselessly, mysterious footsteps were heard crossing some of the rooms. At times a fearful clangor broke out in the old blacksmith shop and all the spinning wheels were set a-whirring. To be sure, the present owner

making light of these things, skeptically states that the doors in old houses will rattle and get out of order and even speaks of rats in connection with the mysterious noises. But we all know there are some people who never believe anything. I confess to a love for the marvellous. "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

The mill and the accompanying estate passed entirely into the hands of the Perkins family in 1826. Jacob Perkins had previously bought his brother Elisha's part. This deed is dated March 15, 1823.

"Homestead, dwelling house, barn, grist mill, carding mill and other buildings therein, including all the carding and other machinery in and pertaining to said mills."

The homestead still remains in the family. The mill was retained by them till 1878, when it passed into the hands of its present owner, Mr. Wellington Donaldson.



"The Treason of Lieut. John Gould."

By REV. FRANCIS A. POOLE.

The accession of James II to the throne of England boded no good to the colonists of Massachusetts Bay. At the beginning of his reign they were an independent people living under a representative government, levying their own taxes, conducting their own courts of justice, coining their own money. At the close of the third year of his reign they were none the less independent in spirit but the privileges of independence had been taken away. Legislation and taxation had become the prerogatives of Edmund Andros, the Governor of New England; the courts of justice were under his influence; even the process of "countenancing and encouraging the Church of England" was well under way and Episcopal services were held every Sunday in the Old South Meeting-house at Boston.

So decided a change in their condition was naturally very depressing to the colonists and the smouldering fires of their indignation threatened at any time to become a blaze. But the oppression was so shrewdly conducted that the opportunity for concerted action was long in presenting itself.

Only gradually were changes in the judiciary and in the system of taxation consummated, and then under the cover of professed advantage to the citizens. Remonstrance only resulted in making the burdens heavier and for the most part the people seemed to realize that "dis-

cretion was the better part of valor."

But the spirit of liberty taught by their religion and nourished by their past privileges was not easily restrained. Passive submission was impossible to some high-strung natures. It was inevitable that in isolated instances at least the suppressed indignation would find an utterance, and so it was in fact. In Essex county especially the independent spirit was too strong to keep the silence. And while it is said that several towns in the State refused to conform to a certain odious measure, it is said that in Essex county every town but three joined in this refusal. In Ipswich the opposition to the measure was particularly strenuous and the leaders in the opposition, six in number, were arrested and heavily fined.

But the beginning of the attempt to coerce Massachusetts was even prior to the coming of Andros, and at the very outset the ire of the independent Puritan was aroused. Among the first to express his indignation at the new order of affairs was a respected citizen of the town of Topsfield, Lieut. John Gould.

The abrogation of the charter of Massachusetts was the act of Charles II, but before any arrangements had been made for the government of the colony his death had suddenly occurred. There were too many affairs at home engaging the attention of his successor for him to consider the situation across the Atlan-

tic and accordingly he directed that for the present all the officials in the colonies should exercise their functions as heretofore. As a provisional expedient, therefore, the government of Massachusetts Bay was conducted according to the old charter, while the people awaited the pleasure of the King. They were not left long in doubt as to the nature of his policy. By the influence of Edward Randolph a temporary government was established with Joseph Dudley as President, William Stoughton as Deputy President and Edward Randolph himself as Secretary. "Their functions were judicial and executive. They had no legislative authority." Before the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, which however the officers of the new government refused to recognize in an official capacity, Dudley and Randolph laid their commissions. On the third day following, but under protest, the old government was dissolved, the General Court having first passed by a unanimous vote a reply to the terms of his Majesty's commission.

The first criticism that they made was this: "We find that there is no certain determinate rule for your administration of justice, and that which is, seems too arbitrary." This was upon May 20, 1686. And as we may well believe, the knowledge of what had taken place furnished material for discussion in every village of the colony. Some of the weaker men were doubtless resolved already to support the new order. The stronger ones were indignant against it, and none more so than Lieut. John Gould of Topsfield. He seems

to have had special feeling against the court regulations referred to above, and between May 23d and May 30th was heard to say: "That if the county was of his mind, they would keep Salem Court with the former majistrates, and if the county would go the rounds, he would make the first, and would go and keep Salem court and he would have his company down to do it." The events of a month seem not to have cooled the ardor of his resentment, for on or about the 11th day of July he broke out again with this declaration: "That he was under another Government and had sworn to another Government, and did not know this Government." Heroic John Gould! But his liberty of speech cost him dearly. There were those who heard his words of noble indiscretion and upon the representations of Isaac Cummings, John Wild and John How he was charged with treason. A warrant was issued for his arrest and he was committed to jail in Boston. This was upon the 5th of August, 1686. A copy of the original warrant is here appended:

BOSTON, Sc.

*To the Keeper of his Majesty's
Jail in Boston.*

The President of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England, with the Deputy President and others of his Majesty's Council assembled, the 7th day of August 1686, having received information upon the oaths of Isaac Cummings, John Wild, and John How, of several treasonable and seditious words, spoken by John Gould of Topsfield,

against our Sovereign Lord the King, &c. These are therefore, in his majesty's name, to require you to take into your Custody the body of the said John Gould, and him safely keep until he shall be delivered in due course of Law, and for doing this shall be your warrant, given at the Council House in Boston, the said 5th day of August, Anno Dom. 1686. Anno que R. R. Jacobi Dei Gratia Angliae &c.—secundi.

Vera Copia. ED RANDOLPH.

Sec.

He appears to have been suffering from some physical ailment and therefore sent a petition to the President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England, in consequence of which it was ordered: "That the Prison-keeper do permit the said John Gould to have the benefit of the Prison yard to walk in during his sickness (the keeper taking care the said Gould make not an escape) till further order."

Council House Boston, Aug. 12, 1686.
(signed)

Ed. Randolph, Sec'ry.

On August 19 he was brought to trial before a special session of the Court held in Boston. He was found guilty of the charge of treason and sent to prison.

A copy of the original document in which under oath John Wild, John How, Isaac Cummings & Ephraim How witness against John Gould is herewith inserted.

CASE OF JOHN GOULD CHARGED WITH TREASON.

NEW ENGLAND, Sc.

Re: Contra Gould in Sessione Speciali, 19th Aug. 1686.

The Jurors for our Sovereign Lord, the King, do upon their oaths present, that John Gould, sen., otherwise called Lieutenant Gould of Topsfield, in the County of Essex, husbandman, by force and arms, that is to say, between the 23d and 30th of May, in the second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, &c., being evilly affected against our most sacred Lord the King aforesaid, his supreme and natural Lord, and devising with all his might, and intending to disturb the peace and common tranquillity of this his Majesty's Territory and Domain of New England, as the same is now settled by his Majesty's Royal Commission under his great seal of England, and the introducing again of the late Government dissolved by law, at a Riotous Muster of armed men gathered together by him, the aforesaid John Gould as their pretended officer, at Topsfield aforesaid, in the County aforesaid, in the year aforesaid, he the said John Gould as aforesaid, then and there being, did against the duty of his Allegiance, and in terror of his Majesty's liege People, maliciously, wickedly, seditiously, treasonably, and advisedly, speak and utter these malicious, treasonable, and seditious speeches following, viz: If the Country was of his mind, they would keep Salem Court with the former Magistrates, and if the Country would go the Rounds, he would make the first, and would go and keep Salem Court, and he would have his Company down to do it. And, further, he, the said John Gould as aforesaid, on

or about the 11th day of July, at Topsfield aforesaid, in the County aforesaid, in the year aforesaid, maliciously, advisedly and treasonably, did say and utter these malicious, treasonable and seditious words, following, viz: That he was under another Government and had sworn to another Government, and did not know this Government, and this in manifest contempt of his Majesty's laws and Government here in New England, to the will and pernicious example of all others in the like case offending, and against the peace of our said Sovereign Lord the King, his Crown and dignity.

John Wild,	} Witnesses.
John Howe,	
Isaac Cummings,	
Ephraim Howe,	

The punishment thus meted out to him was hard to bear. His family, consisting of wife and eight children, was deprived of the means of support and he therefore sends a special petition "to the honorable President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England." He promises allegiance to the new government, states that he is "heartily sorry for the idle words he uttered" and asks "that upon his payment of twenty pounds, fees of Court, and giving sufficient security for his good behavior he may be freed from his imprisonment." The total amount of the bill of costs was £10.01.00, itemized as follows:

Rez versus *Gould*. A bill of costs at a special court of Oyer and Terminer, holden in Boston, for his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England.

Aug. 19th 1686.

The Judge's fee,	£1.00.00
Drawing the Indictment,	0.02.06
Filing the Indictment,	0.01.00
Taking 4 Recognizances in Court,	0.08.00
Filing the same,	0.01.00
For the <i>venire facias</i> to the Justice and Marshall,	0.02.00
For reading the Evidences, No. 4,	0.01.00
For taking and entering the verdicts,	0.02.00
For entering the Judgement,	0 02.00
For the Discharge,	0.02.00
The Attorney General's fee, for pleading on the indictment,	1.10.00
Ipswich Court Charges,	0.17.06
Charges of witnesses at Boston.	2.12.00
Paid in Court to 4 persons,	1.00.00
Marshall Green's Journey,	2.00.00
	<hr/>
	£10.01.00

The petition of John Gould was as follows.

To the honorable, the President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England

The humble petition of John Gould humbly sheweth.

That your petitioner shall ever pray for your Honours' prosperity, as in duty bound. for your favorable answer to his late petition; which, if he were able, he would readily embrace without further troubling your honours; but his fortune being very inconsiderable and that incumbered; and being incapable to get a penny toward the support of his wife and eight children. He, therefore, most humbly prays, that your honours

will be pleased to take his deplorable condition into further consideration, (he being heartily sorry for the idle words he uttered) that, on his payment of twenty pounds, fees of Court, and giving sufficient security for his good behaviour, he may be freed from his imprisonment. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, etc.

JOHN GOULD.

His petition was granted and on Aug. 25 he was released from confinement. There is apparently some confusion regarding the terms upon which his release was secured. For there seem to be two documents in which his discharge is ordered. In one of these it is required that he pay the sum of twenty pounds beside prison fees and fees of prosecution and furnish bond for his good behavior.

In the other the amount additional to the charges of prosecution is fixed at fifty pounds instead of twenty and it is stated that on this being paid the remainder of his fine will be respited. Both documents are signed by Ed. Randolph, Sec'y.

Ordered, that upon the petitioners payment of the sum of twenty pounds to the Treasurer and Prison fees and fees of Prosecution, that he be discharged his imprisonment upon giving bond for his good behaviour.

ED. RANDOLPH, *Secretary*.

Aug. 15th, 1686.

By the President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England.

Upon reading the petition of John Gould, and considering the poverty of his family it is ordered,

That upon the payment of Fifty Pounds in Money, and charges of Prosecution, the remainder of his fine be respited and he be released of his imprisonment, he giving bonds for his good behaviour, according to order of Court.

ED. RANDOLPH, *Secretary*.

Aug. 25th, 1686.

As security for his future good behavior Lieut. Gould bound himself in the sum of 100 pounds, a copy of which bond is inserted herewith.

Know all men by these presents, that I, John Gould, senior, otherwise called Lieutenant Gould of Topsfield, in the county of Essex (in his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England.) husbandman, am holden and firmly bound unto the most Illustrious Prince, James II. of England, etc., King etc, his heirs, or lawful Attorney in the sum of one hundred pounds, to the which payment, well and truly to be made, I bind myself firmly by these presents, sealed with my seal, dated the twenty-fifth day of September, in the 2d year of the reign of our said Sovereign Lord, James II. of England, etc., and in the year of our Lord, one thousand six hundred eighty six. The condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bounden John Gould senior, do well and truly keep the peace of our Sovereign Lord, the King aforesaid, and shall also be of good behavior towards our said Lord, the King, and all his liege people, especially to the inhabitants of Topsfield, aforesaid, then this recognizance to be void and of none effect, or otherwise to be and remain in full force, power and virtue.

JOHN GOULD, *Senior*.

Signed, sealed and delivered to the use of our said Sovereign Lord, the King, in the presence of Benjamin Bullivant.

The readiness with which the gallant lieutenant swore devotion to the King's government, now that adversity had followed his resistance, is at first surprising, but in the absence of any wide spread disposition to rebel against the authority of the King, it may have seemed useless that he should become a martyr, and in praying for release upon the terms stated, he did but follow the example of the majority, who, much as they disliked to do so, realized that submission was for the present the wisest course.

He seems to have suffered nothing in the respect of his fellow citizens, for when by the accession of William and Mary to the throne of England, the Andros administration came to an end, John Gould was re-elected to his old office as selectman of the town, "and in 1690, and afterwards, he was chosen the deputy of Topsfield to the General Court." It seems also from the record of a church meeting held in the house of Rev. Joseph Capen, June 13, 1692, that the church in Topsfield approved his course and was displeased at the conduct of John How and others.

In consequence of John How's testimony against Gould at the time of his trial, a coldness had sprung up and continued to exist between them. Both were members of the church, but Gould concluded, as is

surmised, that "if How is a worthy member of the Christian church, and one with whom it is fit and proper for brethren to hold communion, why, then I am not such a member, and I will just stay away." Accordingly for a considerable time he remained away from the communion service. It was in the endeavor to bring about more cordial relations between the two men that this meeting of the church was called. The church expressed its disapproval of the conduct of those who had testified against Gould, and How acknowledged that he was heartily sorry for his part in that affair.

The church also disapproved of Gould's neglect of the table of the Lord and he expressed contrition. The two men then shook hands in token of mutual forgiveness, each no doubt made happier by this manly course, while the blessing of the peace maker was the portion of the church.

Such in brief is the story of the treason of John Gould. Treason against tyranny whose other name is devotion to justice and to freedom!

And such is one of the many instances by which from time to time the spirit of our sturdy forefathers found expression, prophetic always of that memorable day to which they looked forward, on which we look back, that day of Independence, when it was declared and soon in bloody conflict proven, "that these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states."



